Office on Aging welcomes islands' *man'amko* to bevy of programs. PAGE 2
Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Club introduces new set of officers. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

$1

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXIV, Issue No. 155

www.saipantribune.com | MONDAY AUGUST 5, 2024 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

ON BODY FOUND AT GARAPAN FISHING BASE

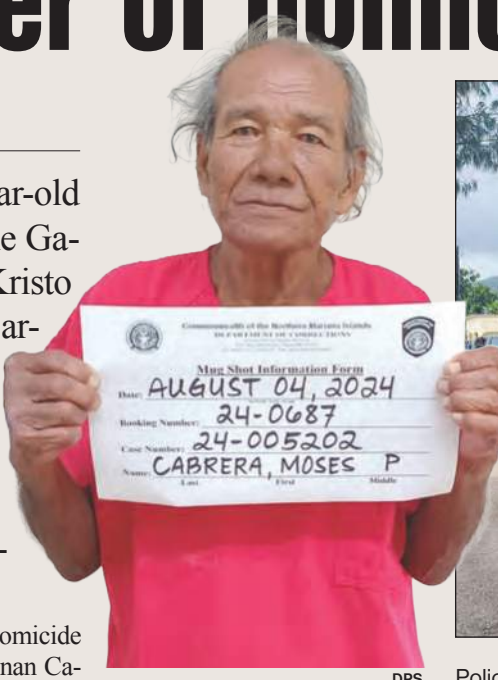
Older brother of homicide victim arrested

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

After the body of a 71-year-old man was found dead at the Garapan Fishing Base in Kristo Rai last Thursday, an arrest warrant was issued and carried out yesterday for the victim's older brother, with charges of second-degree murder, voluntary manslaughter, aggravated assault and battery, and assault with a dangerous weapon.

In an update from the Department of Public Safety yesterday, Moses Pangelinan Cabrera, 78, the older brother of now identified homicide victim Pedro Pangelinan Cabrera, 71, was arrested at his

See OLDER on Page 4



DPS
The police mug shot of Moses Pangelinan Cabrera.

» 78-year-old charged with murder, voluntary manslaughter, aggravated assault and battery

CHRYSTAL MARINO
Police block off the residence of Pedro Pangelinan Cabrera, which has been identified as the initial crime scene in Cabrera's homicide case after his body was found at the Garapan Fishing Base last Thursday.

Ayuyu open to negotiating payment plan

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Ports Authority board chair Joe Ayuyu said from CPA's point of view, Star Marianas Air, Inc. owes CPA money for the use of airport facilities. However, he says he is open to negotiating a possible payment plan as a show of good faith and willingness to move forward.

Last Friday, CPA held a special board meeting to discuss the controversial dispute between them and Star Marianas. The dispute has left the communities of the CNMI

See AYUYU on Page 4

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
Last Friday, the Commonwealth Ports Authority held a special board meeting to discuss the controversial dispute between them and Star Marianas Air, Inc.

DPL: Proposed amendments to clarify existing Mañagaha use regulations

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Public Lands has released a statement regarding the controversial amendments proposed to the current use of Mañagaha Island. According to DPL, the proposed amendment clarifies the regulations that already exist and to give the main concessionaire more control of the Exclusive Concession Area.

According to a statement from DPL's David Sablan, it has proposed to amend the Commercial Use of Mañagaha Island Rules and Regulations pursuant to the procedures of the Administrative

See DPL on Page 4

Search warrant leads to arrests, seizures in CK

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

After a recent burglary and theft investigation, the Department of Public Safety executed a search warrant leading to the arrest of two individuals and the seizure of various illegal items in Chalan Kanoa last Thursday.

Assistant chief of police Simon T. Manacop, who is also the acting public information officer for DPS, shared that the operation was sanctioned by Associate Judge Kenneth

See SEARCH on Page 4

CHRYSTAL MARINO
Cars block off this street in Chalan Kanoa while the Department of Public Safety conducts a search at a residence last Thursday.

INSIDE

LOCAL
The Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Services is hosting free nutrition and healthy cooking classes through the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program for all parents and caregivers of children under 18.
PAGE 5

BUSINESS
Bank of Guam celebrates Guam's winners of the 2024 U.S. Small Business Administration Awards.
PAGE 10

LIFE & STYLE
Aerosmith says Steven Tyler's voice has been permanently damaged by a vocal cord injury last year and the band will no longer tour.
PAGE 11

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

Office on Aging welcomes islands' *man'amko* to bevy of programs

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

The Office on Aging welcomes community members who are 60 years or older to be their congregants or homebound elderly clients.

According to Office on Aging director Walter Manglona, congregants are members who are active members, regularly participate in the *man'amko* center activities, programs, or events from Monday to Friday. Meanwhile, homebound elderly clients and those with disabilities in the CNMI received free home-delivered meals.

"Homebound clients are not labeled as congregants. We refer to them as homebound elderly clients. Active members who participate at the senior centers are congregants, said Manglona.

Among the activities that were held and still happening in the Office on Aging centers on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are computer and technology training for seniors, which basically teaches them how to operate a computer, tablets, and smartphones. The goal is to introduce basic technological training to the elders and people with disabilities.

Musical activities at the aging centers also have led to the formation of a Senior Citizen Band, complete with a lead singer, guitarist, bass man, and drummer. Manglona said there is also a separate area designated for karaoke and during gatherings and performances, the *man'amko* are allowed to perform in front of an audience.

The Office on Aging also has cultural arts and crafts which are highly regarded among the elderly and people with disabilities. Manglona encourages the *man'amko* to stay creative and maintain the island custom of weaving, carving, beading, and more.

"Our elders often act as presenters to school children, teaching them the art of these traditional crafts, he said.

The *man'amko* also usually take part in morning stretching exercises before they start their daily program. This allows the elderly to become physically ready and energized to take on the day.

"They are being encouraged to take part in this activity every day to help them stay active and healthy," said Manglona.

The Office on Aging's recreational activities provide various games and activities that are available and allow the *man'amko* to remain active while at the senior centers. Activities include bingo, billiards, board games, foosball, softball, basketball, ground golf, gym, karaoke, movies,

See AGING on Page 4

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO/
Cultural arts and crafts activities are highly regarded among the elderly and people with disabilities at the Office in Aging.

ZONING
... to improve our island's quality of life!

Public Notice of Proposed Zoning Regulations
Arongorongol Toulap reel Ppwommwol Mwóghutughutúl Zoning
Nutisian Pupbliku Put I Maproponi Na Regulasion Zoning Siha

The public is invited to review and provide comments on the proposed NABPMA of 2018 REGULATIONS on before August 12, 2024. You may view the regulations on https://cnmilaw.org, or website https://cnmizoning.com, or at the Zoning Office in Chalan Laulau (234-9661/2).

Nuisance Abatement and Blighted Properties Maintenance Act of 2018 (NABPMA)

Call us at 234-9661/2 or visit the
Zoning Office in Chalan Laulau for more information.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp Website: http://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)

(This ad is paid by NMHC by HUD funds)

AMENDMENT No. 1
NMHC IFB 2024-008

BID SUBMISSION DATE: ~~August 08, 2024~~ August 22, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

MARIANAS HIGH SCHOOL GYM HVAC PROJECT

Project Package will be available on June 24, 2024, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One-Hundred Dollars ($100.00) is required for each set of the project package. Payment must be made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the project package at the reception counter.

Brief description of the project package is available on the NMHC CDBG-DR Website at https://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com/ "Procurement Tab".

The provisions on the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Central Office Conference located in Garapan, Saipan on **July 09, 2024, 10:00 a.m.** In addition, a Mandatory site Visit/Inspection of the project site will be conducted immediately after the Pre-Bid Conference. Failure to attend both the Mandatory Pre-bid conference and the Mandatory site Visit/Inspection will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-9447 or via email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net during business hours, 7:30am – 4:30pm Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

/s/ MERCED "MARCIE" M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman
NMHC Board of Directors

Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Club introduces new set of officers

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

The Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Club welcomed its new members and officers last July 27 at Mama Rio's Cafe in Garapan.

The activity dubbed "A walk through, through the Leo Year" was attended by 35 officers and members.

According to the club's former president Arnel Josh Villadolid Coloma, the event is to commemorate the community services done by Saipan Cub Alpha Leo Club for Leo Year 2023-2024. The event was also the club's first general membership meeting for Leo Year 2024-2025 wherein the new set of officers were introduced.

The Saipan Cub Alpha Lions Club was chartered by Saipan Alliance Lions Club on April 27, 2022, wherein Coloma served as club president until June 30, 2024.

Coloma shared his experience and thanked the members on his outgoing speech.

"Thank you so much for all the opportunities you have given me as being the president of the club. Being the president plays a big role in the organization, without the members it won't be successful, so I would like to give my sincerest appreciation to all of you for the support you have given. Good luck to the club's future endeavors, please continue to let the club shine and the legacy of what are club has done in the community. We have made a huge impact not only with us, but the life of others and mostly the youth."

The new set of officers are led by Charice Tamondong Silvano as president, Coloma as immediate past president, Jhaylin John Cruz as first vice president, Eunīce Cortez Molina as second vice president, Elline Joy Dionio Seguritan as secretary, Aaron Russell Dela Cruz Gamboa as treasurer, Celina Grace Capirihan Napitan as Club Service chairperson, Joullia San Pascual Agulto as Club Membership chairperson, John Patrick Trinidad Bangis as Club Marketing chairperson, and Jose Jeffrey Alabata Bonto as Leo tamer.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Clubs new officers, from left, Club Membership chair Joullia San Pascual Agulto, second vice president Eunīce Cortez Molina, first vice president Jhaylin John Cruz, president Charice Tamondong Silvano, Leo tamer Jose Jeffrey Alabata Bonto, club marketing chair John Patrick Trinidad Bangis, and treasurer Aaron Russell Dela Cruz Gamboa.

Silvano mentioned in her speech that she will be the voice of the youth and that she has a lot of projects lined up.

"First of all, I want to thank everyone who has helped and supported me to get to where I am today. I would also like to extend my sincerest appreciation to the past Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Club officers during the Leo Year 2023-2024 for their hard work and commitment in making a difference. I feel really proud and excited to be given the position as president for Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Club this Leo year, I have many goals this year! One of many is to definitely be the voice for our youth. As president, I look forward to help and assist the community for the better," she said.

Members of Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Club would like to extend their sincere appreciation to Annabel Tudela and Elena Enriquez for their dedication and commitment as being advisors of Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Club. Their hard work and commitment have made a huge contribution to the club and the community.

New member Davin Mansilungan expressed his excitement as he said, "I feel great being a Leo and being a new member of the Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Club. I will for sure enjoy my time being a member of the club, this club will definitely change the way I am and will help me in the future. I'm grateful to be part of this club! I'm thankful to be a Leo!"

District 204 Region 2 chair Marcelo Masilungan is one of the sponsors of the event and he talked about empowering the Leo Club.

"The Lions Clubs International president recommended that we empower Leos by giving them proper training and guidance, making sure they get involved. The young generation always has fresh ideas, they are very energetic. Sometimes their speed is over 500 miles an hour, but with continued guidance from a Lion, they will make a very good contribution in serving the community," he said.

The Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Club would like to thank the following sponsors: Ron Hidalgo, Loisa Cabuhat, Masilungan, Dannie Robles, Rowena Coloma, Carol Pamintuan, Mona Yamson, Ester Yamson, Lanie Agulay, Lizette Pascua, and Liza Taylor.

Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Club is a non-profit organization ready to help and serve the community. Leo is an acronym for Leadership, Experience, Opportunity. Within the organization you will be able to gain Leadership skills and able to experience how to help the community and reach out to the youth through the club and the club offers many opportunities for you to grow as an individual and to gain a lot of skills within the organization.

If you are interested in letting your child join the organization, the Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Club is currently recruiting members ages 12-18. You may reach out to saipancubsalphaleoclub@gmail.com or you may contact Coloma at (670) 788-0151 or Silvano at (670) 588-9599.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Group photo of Saipan Cubs Alpha Leo Clubs officers and members after the event last July 27 at Mama Rio's Cafe in Garapan.

ARMATECH

Xeeder RFID Hotel Door Locks Installer and Repairer
Tel: (670) 234-8895 | Email: armatech.saipan@gmail.com
Mobile: (670) 287-5525 / (670) 783-8895

Job Vacancy Announcement

ANAKS GENERAL MANAGER

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Bachelor's degree from a U.S.- accredited institution, or equivalent
2. Four or more years' experience in a management position
3. Computer literate, proficient in Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), email, Internet searches. Knowledge of accounting software, Quicken, a plus.
4. Strong organizational, supervisory, problem-solving and communication skills
5. U.S. citizen/Permanent resident
6. Multilingual a plus (Japanese, Korean, Mandarin Chinese)

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Maintain accurate, up-to-date financial records according to generally accepted accounting principles.
2. Provide financial statements to the Board of Directors as requested.
3. Ensure compliance with all federal and local laws, tax requirements, annual corporate reports, and other reporting requirements.
4. Responsible for determining staffing requirements, hiring, training, supervising, and evaluating all ANAKS employees, including establishing working hours, ensuring the payment of wages and deduction of employment taxes, obtaining Workers Compensation insurance, preparing an annual personnel budget, and managing all other aspects of ANAKS staffing.
5. Prepare and distribute monthly billing statements to all homeowners and/or tenants, as applicable.
6. Establish an effective and timely system for collecting owners'/tenants' monthly management fees and other receivables due.
7. Monitor water and electricity usage for all units and prepare billings accordingly.
8. Ensure efficient, prompt payment to all vendors, suppliers, contractors, etc.
9. Establish and implement maintenance schedules for reverse osmosis water system, generators, pumps, sewer system, swimming pool, tennis court, and other ANAKS equipment and infrastructure.
10. Maintain an inventory of necessary spare replacement parts to ensure smooth operation of water system, generators, swimming pool, and other equipment as needed.
11. Ensure that all common areas including the swimming pool area, garbage houses, roadways, tennis court, walkways, etc. are clean, well-maintained and in good condition, and grounds and landscaping are attractive and regularly maintained.
12. Keep the Board informed of major preventive maintenance costs, emergencies, repairs, and replacements per the Board's Expenditure Policy.
13. Conduct routine inspections of the exterior of all units and make recommendations for repairs and improvements.
14. Work closely with, and provide administrative support to the Board of Directors (attend board and committee meetings, draft meeting minutes, enforce policies/bylaws/regulations, budgeting) to continuously improve and beautify the complex.
15. Develop standard operating procedures (SOPs) for day-to-day operations, maintenance, procurement of products and services, financial management, etc.; and human resources tasks such as staff performance evaluations, employee development/training, employee recognition, disciplinary and grievance procedures, etc.
16. Other duties as assigned by the President or Board of Directors.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested candidates should submit their resume, cover letter, recent police clearance, and professional references via email to: office1@anaks.net by August 7, 2024. Please include "General Manager Application" in the subject line.

CROWNE PLAZA
AN IHG HOTEL
RESORT SAIPAN
WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS WINNER 2023
Micronesia's Leading Resort
Micronesia's Leading Resort
WANTS YOU
Open Position:
CHIEF ENGINEER
Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan was recognized as Micronesia's Leading Resort in 2023 by the World Travel Awards.
Join our team and experience growth with endless possibilities. We provide competitive benefits packages.
Send your CV/Resume to: hr.cprsaipan@ihg.com or the Human Resources Office

SEARCH

From page 1

Govendo, who authorized the search warrant on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, around 3:50pm.

The warrant targeted the residence of Glen Sablan Palacios in Chalan Kanoa. This action was part of the ongoing investigation into a burglary and theft incident reported on July 25, 2024, at the Marianas Management Corp. office located at Joeten Superstore in San Jose.

On Thursday, Aug. 1, 2024, at approximately 12:45pm law enforcement officers carried out the search warrant at Palacios' residence. During the search, they uncovered and seized stolen property, drugs, a firearm, and ammunition.

Following the raid, Palacios and Hope Blanco were apprehended at the scene and subsequently transported to the Department of Corrections, where they were booked and detained. Palacios faces charges of illegal possession of a controlled substance and illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition. Blanco has been charged with illegal possession of a controlled substance.

DPS stated that the accountability of the items seized is still underway. The Criminal Investigation Bureau continues to lead this active investigation.

DPL

From page 1

Procedure Act.

Specifically, the proposed amendments would restrict the consumption of outside food and beverages in the Exclusive Concession Area; restrict certain personal floatation devices in the Designated Swimming Zone; and further define the type of "commercial activity" that may be provided by the main concessionaire and a limited number of sub-concessionaires mutually agreed by DPL and the concessionaire.

"DPL's Commercial Use of Managaha Island Rules and Regulations currently provide that all commercial activity, including conveniences such as food, beverages, recreational equipment, and the like, shall only be provided by the main concessionaire and a limited number of sub-concessionaires, and allow outside food and beverages brought in by visitors for personal consumption. In addition, the regulations do not currently address the use of personal floatation devices. However, Section 16(A) of the Mañagaha Island Master Concession Operator Agreement requires the concessionaire to indemnify and hold harmless DPL for any injuries or losses which occur in the Exclusive Concession Area or which arise out of or in connection with any activities under the agreement, including the provision of lifeguard services. Revising the regulations to restrict outside food and beverages in the ECA and to restrict personal floatation devices used in the Designated Swimming Zone to those provided by the concessionaire will allow the concessionaire to exercise greater control over activities occurring in the ECA and for which the concessionaire is liable," said Sablan.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

AYUYU

From page 1

at the edge of their seats following Star Marianas' notice of possible suspension of air service as a direct result of this disagreement.

Following the meeting, one thing was clear, CPA is adamant on collecting fees from Star Marianas as the Tinian-based inter-island carrier has allegedly refused to pay invoices for airport use fees dating back to October 2022.

"From CPA's point of view, Star Marianas owes us. It's simple. I have to say, I do recognize the contribution of Star Marianas to our island, they serve a vital role in providing inter-island transportation. I want to thank Mr. Robert Christian for that. However, doing that doesn't mean [Star Marianas] can use the services of our island, for free. Its incomprehensible. It takes people to run the airport and [CPA] has to pay them. CPA doesn't get any [subsidy]. I hope Mr. Christian will come to his senses. Nowhere in this world should a business be using a public facility and paying zero. It's ridiculous. That's my problem with Star Marianas," Ayuyu said.

Ayuyu noted that in an effort to move forward, he is even willing to negotiate an installment plan or even a discount, pursuant to the entire board's approval.

"I'm even opening to the idea of an installment payment, maybe a discount on what they owe us. I'm really flexible, of course with approval from the board of directors. The problem is there is no opening for me in these conversations because Star Marianas refuses to pay anything at all," he said.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Available for Public Review & Comment
PY2024 Annual Action Plan
July 8, 2024

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) announces the availability for public review and comment, the Program Year 2024 Annual Action Plan (AAP).

The AAP is mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Office of Community Planning and Development, for the use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds received by NMHC. NMHC is the Grantee of these HUD funds. NMHC administers CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs on behalf of the CNMI.

The PY2024 AAP identifies NMHC's proposed use of HUD PY2024 CDBG, HOME, HTF and ESG funds totaling $1,493,326.89. A detailed list of the proposed projects and activities are shown below.

Community Development Block Grant		Project Sponsor	Project Type	Amount
1	CNMI Community Health Education and	Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation	Public Facility	$ 784,100
2	Planning and Administrative Costs	Northern Marianas Housing Corporation	Planning and Administrative Costs	$196,025.00
	Total			$980,125.00
Emergency Solutions Grant		Project Sponsor	Project Type	Amount
3	Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Assistance/ Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services	Homeless Prevention/ NMHC	Rapid Rehousing	$ 68,119.25
4	ESG Administrative Cost	NMHC	Program Administration	$ 6,090.75
5	Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)	NMHC	HMIS	$ 7,000.00
	Total			$ 81,210.00
HOME Investment Partnership Grant		Project Sponsor	Project Type	Amount
6	HOME Rehabilitation/ Homebuyer New Construction Program	NMHC	Affordable Housing	$ 339,564.55
7	HOME Administration	NMHC	Program Administration	$ 68,158.45
	Total			$407,723.00
Housing Trust Fund		Project Sponsor	Project Type	Amount
8	Acquisition and Rehabilitation of Housing	Konstruct Corp.	Affordable Housing	$ 24,268.89
				$ 24,268.89

The AAP will be available electronically on NMHC's website at www.nmhcgov.net. If you would like to obtain a copy or require additional information, please contact Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director at 234-6866 or by email at deputydirector@nmhcgov.net.

NMHC is inviting the public to comment on the proposed AAP. Public Hearings will be held on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. See detail below: Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 5:00 pm at the NMHC Main Office Conference Room, Garapan; Wednesday, July 24, 2024, 5:00 p.m. at the Tinian Field Office, San Jose Tinian; and on Thursday, July 25, 2024, 5:00 p.m. at the Rota Field Office, Sinapalo III, Rota.

Any person(s), agency, or organization wishing to comment on the AAP are encouraged to do so by submitting written comments to the NMHC main office at Garapan, Saipan, and/or to the Rota and Tinian Field Offices, no later than 4:30 pm Friday, August 8, 2024. Written comments may also be submitted via facsimile at (670)234-9021 or by submitting via email to deputydirector@nmhcgov.net. Comments must be received no later than 4:30 pm Friday, August 8, 2024. Should you require special accommodations, please contact Ms. Mafnas, at the NMHC main office, at 670-234-6866.

Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director
This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD CPD funds

OLDER

From page 1

residence in San Jose yesterday afternoon, and is currently detained at the Department of Corrections on a $250,000 cash bail.

The arrest warrant was issued by Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio earlier that morning, two days after the body of Pedro Cabrera was found lifeless at the Garapan Fishing Base.

During a press conference last Friday, DPS Commissioner Anthony Macaranas shared that the younger Cabrera's body had been discovered late Thursday afternoon after a resident called in a man that was unusually lying on the rocks at the Garapan Fishing Base. Police arrived at the scene at around 5:07pm.

Macaranas shared that DPS investigation has reason to believe that Cabrera's home was where the murder took place, and the fishing base merely where the guilty party dropped the body. Macaranas said that there had been severe trauma on Cabrera's face, appearing to have been caused by a blunt object and divulged just how severe the blows were, noting that it was hard to identify Cabrera at first, but officers were soon able to because of a recognizable tattoo on the victim's arm, which two persons, including one family member. "... we're waiting for an autopsy to determine the actual cause of death."

Unlike the misinformation spread, Macaranas confirmed that the body had not been in any stage of decomposition. He confirmed that the homicide had happened within the day it had been reported. "...it has not shown any kind of decomposition or rigor mortis," he said. As to the precise time of death, Macaranas said "that will be determined by the autopsy..."

On the same day of the discovery, two persons of interest were questioned, one of which, now is known as older brother Moses Pangelinan Cabrera. Macaranas shared that both persons of interest had conflicting testimonies, indicating the other person was likely responsible for the death. "We came across the people there that were at the crime scene, and eventually they were interviewed, and both persons gave an inconsistent statement."

Macaranas shared that both persons of interest had been placed under custody of DOC, arrested after having separate charges unrelated to the homicide to their name. He shared that police are currently investigating whether or not nearby business surveillance was able to catch sight of anything. "I cannot confirm that because the investigators have not informed me about any [of those] findings."

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF	] CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0010]
DIMAS ATALIG HOCOG,	] NOTICE OF HEARING ON] CLAIM FOR] HEIRSHIP AND NOTICE] TO POTENTIAL HEIRS]
Decedent.	] Date: October 3, 2024] Time: 10:00 a.m.] Judge: Hon. Joseph] N. Camacho]

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a hearing on the Claim for Heirship in the Estate of Dimas Atalig Hocog, is scheduled to be heard on **October 3, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.,** in the Guma Hustisia, Imwal Aweewe, House of Justice in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Any and all claims for heirship of Dimas Atalig Hocog or his estate is hereby required to be filed with the Clerk of Court on or before **September 26, 2024.** This notice shall be published once in Saipan Tribune and posted at the Rota Judicial Center and the Rota Mayor's Office.

SO ORDERED this 2nd day of August 2024.

HON. JUDGE JOSEPH N. CAMACHO
Associate Judge

AGING

From page 2

gardening, and more.

The *man'amko* are also involved in movie production where they are allowed to act in locally produced feature films. The most recent production they were involved in was entitled "The Forgotten Island" which was used as a fundraising mechanism for the Saipan Seniors Advisory Council, a non-profit organization that uses its funds for the benefit of elderly clients and people with disabilities enrolled at the Office on Aging.

Manglona said the *man'amko* also take part in cultural tutorials that provide opportunities for the elderly and people with disabilities enrolled at the program to visit schools to do storytelling, dancing, singing, arts and crafts, and more. "These cultural tutorials also enable opportunities for the elderly and people with disabilities to teach our language, history, and the use of traditional crafts."

One of the highlights of the year for the islands' *man'amko* is the Office on Aging's Cultural Variety Shows wherein each year the elderly showcase their talent and takes place during the Older Americans Month celebration in May."

During this performance, they perform traditional dances, musical acts, dramatic interpretations, and more.

The Office on Aging also holds the Man'amko King and Queen Fundraiser annually in May to help raise funds for their upcoming off-island trips and other celebrations.

They also have a gardening project where the seniors grow their vegetables. This activity increases levels of physical activity and helps mobility and flexibility. It also encourages them to use all motor skills, improving endurance and strength. Gardening also helps prevent diseases like osteoporosis.

The Office on Aging's Spirit Week, meanwhile, aims to help lift the spirit of the elderly at the senior centers by promoting cohesiveness and participation. Their Fun Fridays have congregants at the senior centers compete in contests and other forms of competitive games. This activity helps keep senior citizens stay active and healthy.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

EFNEP brings healthy cooking classes, physical activity to parents, caregivers with young children at NMC

The Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Services is hosting free nutrition and healthy cooking classes through the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program for all parents and caregivers of children under 18.

EFNEP provides a series of nine interactive lessons on healthy food choices, saving money on groceries, meal planning, food safety, and physical activity. Participants prepare and taste a healthy recipe in every lesson and receive enhancements and a certificate of completion upon completing all nine lessons.

Recent EFNEP graduate Yumi Rabauliman shared how she was empowered to pursue a healthier lifestyle after completing nine lessons.

EFNEP participant Yumi Rabauliman prepares a healthy recipe during class.

"Since taking the class, I started to make a grocery list and plan meals to cook for the week. Now my family and I save more money, food stamp coupons, and still enjoy eating. I was also able to lose 3 lbs. just by cutting down on sugary drinks and food, drinking more water, and working out… EFNEP made me realize that even if healthy foods are expensive, we can learn to make our own healthy affordable meals at home," Rabauliman said.

Another EFNEP graduate, Molly Ann M. Duenas said, "The EFNEP program made a positive impact on me. It helped me become smarter in shopping for food and to buy only what is needed. Now, I eat less rice, eat more vegetables, and began participating in dancing activities."

Parents and caregivers of school-age children are highly encouraged to pursue healthier lifestyles through these free EFNEP nutrition and healthy cooking classes.

The upcoming free EFNEP classes will be held at Kagman Community Center from 5pm to 7pm starting July 30 to Aug. 27, 2024, every Tuesday and Friday. Another round of EFNEP classes will take place in Room J-15 at the NMC Saipan campus from 5:30pm to 7pm starting Aug. 5 to Sept. 5, 2024, every Monday and Thursday. EFNEP classes on Tinian will be held at the NMC Tinian campus from 5:30pm to 7pm starting Aug. 5 to Sept. 5, 2024, every Monday and Thursday.

To register for the next Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program cohort, visit bit.ly/EFNEPCNMI. For more information about the program, contact (670) 237-6852/3 or email at efnep@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

NMC

Newly graduated EFNEP participants gather for a group photo with their EFNEP instructor on the final day of lessons with their certificates of completion.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net
Tels: (670) 234-9447 / 234-6866 / 234-7670 • Fax: (670) 234-9021

PUBLIC NOTICE

JULY 22, 2024

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after **August 07, 2024,** the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
New Construction: Multipurpose Stage (Rota)	Construct a Multipurpose Stage Facility to enhance Rota's municipal and community outdoor events and activities.	Community and Economic Development Park. Lot No. 347 R 35, Sinapalo III, Rota	$230,000.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will not significantly impact the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan. It may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by **August 07, 2024, 4:30 p.m.,** will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands before authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Arnold I. Palacios consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of **fifteen days** following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the **U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, Honolulu Field Office, 1003 Bishop Street, Suite 2100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813** and CPDHonolulu@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor, CNMI

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net
Tels: (670) 234-9447 / 234-6866 / 234-7670 • Fax: (670) 234-9021

PUBLIC NOTICE

JULY 22, 2024

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after **August 07, 2024,** the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
New Construction: Community Pavilions Shelter (Rota)	Construct Community Pavilions to provide shelters and enhance Rota's municipal and community recreational activities and outdoor events.	Community and Economic Development Park Lot No. 347 R 35, Sinapalo III, Rota	$104,100.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will not significantly impact the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, and may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by **August 07, 2024, 4:30 p.m.,** will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Arnold I. Palacios consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of **fifteen days** following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the **U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, Honolulu Field Office, 1003 Bishop Street, Suite 2100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813** and CPDHonolulu@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor, CNMI

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXXIV, Issue No. 155
Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950
Mark Rabago EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The end for terror masters: Death comes for Hezbollah's Fuad Shukr and Hamas' Ismail Haniyeh

A small bit of justice came to two very evil men when they met their ends in Beirut and Tehran this week. Hezbollah commander Fuad Shukr was blasted to oblivion by Israel in Beirut after Hezbollah fired an Iranian-made Falaq-1 rocket into the Golan Heights, killing a dozen Druze children playing soccer.

That was just one of 6,500 rockets, more than 1,000 anti-tank missiles and hundreds of drones that the terror group has launched from poor, abused Lebanon into Israel since their pals in Hamas began their Oct. 7 pogrom of murder and rape and kidnapping against Israel.

Hours later, at 2 a.m. in Tehran, another arch terrorist, the head of Hamas, Ismail Haniyeh, also expired, along with his bodyguard, when something explosive went through his living room window. The targeted attack, presumably also by Israel, found its target perfectly, as the rest of the apartment building was left touched.

These terrorist enemies of Israel were also enemies of the United States and civilized society.

Shukr had a $5 million price on his head from the U.S. State Department for playing "a central role in the Oct. 23, 1983 bombing of the U.S. Marine Corps Barracks in Beirut which killed 241 U.S. military personnel and wounded 128 others." Hezbollah and Shukr also had a simultaneous attack on a nearby French outpost in Beirut, killing 58 French paratroopers. It's been more than 40 years since the Beirut massacre of U.S. and French peacekeepers who were there to help.

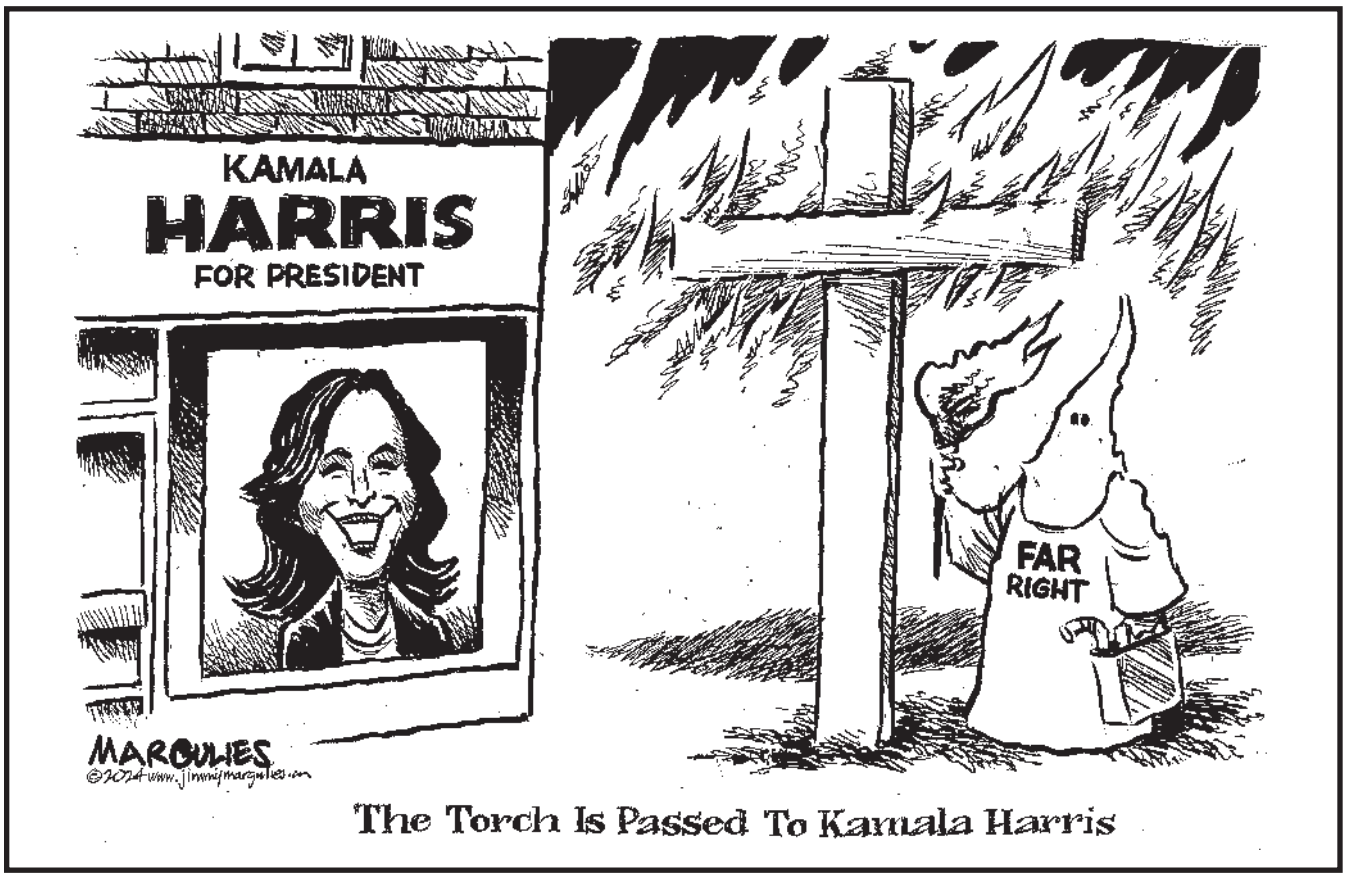
As for the now-dead Hamas leader, Haniyeh, he was on State's list of Specially Designated Global Terrorists. That means he was "determined by the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General, to have committed, or to pose a significant risk of committing, acts of terrorism that threaten the security of U.S. nationals or the national security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States."

The paymaster and armorer of Hezbollah and Hamas is Iran, the world's No. 1 sponsor of terrorism. Yesterday, Iran's Ambassador to the United Nations Amir Saeed Iravani sat before the Security Council and complained about the killings of Shukr and Haniyeh.

With a straight face he called it "a serious violation of international law" and "a serious breach of peace and security" and an "aggressive act of terrorism." He wasn't upset when Iran's terror proxies rained down rockets on soccer fields or intentionally murder as many Israeli civilians as they could. But when the terror chiefs get knocked off, then it's a problem.

But he wasn't as absurd as Iran's puppet Syrian representative, who told the Security Council that the kids playing soc-

See TERROR on Page 7



Finally, a limit to Donald Trump's Teflon superpower—JD Vance

By JACKIE CALMES
Los Angeles Times

Jackie Calmes is an opinion columnist for the Los Angeles Times *in Washington, D.C.*

Nearly nine years, one presidential term and three campaigns later, Donald Trump's rare honest words from early 2016 remain all too true: "I could stand in the middle of 5th Avenue and shoot somebody and I wouldn't lose voters."

Trump has never literally tested his claim, of course, but he has tried to overthrow an election, been adjudicated as a sexual abuser and financial fraudster, gotten convicted for 34 felonies, swiped top-secret documents and said all manner of outrageous things that would doom any other politician. And still he retains enough voters to be a decent bet for reelection.

It turns out, however, that Trump's Teflon superpower isn't transferable. In the two weeks since he picked as his running mate JD Vance—Trump's MAGA Mini-Me in just about every respect—Vance has been on the defensive for comments he made before and since becoming Ohio's junior senator just 19 months ago. By now you know the ones I mean—remarks about the "childless sociopaths" of the ruling class, a.k.a. Democrats, and specifically "childless cat ladies" led by none other than Kamala Harris, now the likely Democratic presidential nominee.

It's been a disastrous debut, polls confirm: Vance is the least liked vice presidential choice in five decades, and the first with a net-negative approval rating.

Yet here's what's interesting: Trump is on the defensive for Vance's inanities, too. It's a most unfamiliar stance for him. Had Trump made the cat lady crack, it would probably have been soon forgotten, following all his other insults, idiocies and lies into a memory hole. Trump doesn't explain his outrages—when you explain, you're losing, the political truism goes—and he never apologizes. (Which is likely why the sycophantic Vance has only doubled down, with smarmy asides about how he's "got nothing against cats" that exacerbate and prolong the catty controversy.)

Yet there was Trump on prime-time Fox News Monday evening, the misogynist in chief answering to an otherwise fawning Laura Ingraham for the misogynistic bro-talk of his potential veep. "He loves family," Trump defended and explained. Well, Ingraham asked, what do you say to women without children? "I think they understand it," Trump replied meekly.

Yes indeedy. And so do their friends and family, men and women alike. Just not in the way Trump implies.

Perhaps Trump's Teflon not only isn't transferable, it's been nicked and scratched. Perhaps, by choosing Vance as his wingman, he's finally being held accountable, by proxy, for the outrageous discourse he's modeled. After all, Vance only started spouting stupidities after he decided to seek political office and needed Trump's support. To that end, the Yale Law grad, Silicon Valley investor, best-selling author and former Trump critic morphed into right-wing culture warrior and Trump lickspittle.

I met the former Vance in early 2017 when he came to the University of Chicago's Institute of Politics to promote his memoir, "Hillbilly Elegy." He genially fielded questions from David Axelrod, the institute's founder, before a large audience. Afterward a few of us went to dinner. I mostly recall that Vance was no fan of the newly inaugurated Trump and that he plainly contemplated running for office as a Republican. As a fellow native of Ohio's working class, I came away thinking that Republicans in our home state would be lucky to have such a self-made, independent-minded pragmatist return as a candidate, and an antidote to Trumpism. Ha.

Vance's now-infamous cat-lady tirade reveals his cringey transformation—and his sweeping judgmentalism masquerading as fact and deep-thinking:

"We're effectively run in this country, via the Democrats, via our corporate oligarchs, by a bunch of childless cat ladies who are miserable at their own lives and the choices that they've made. And so they want to make the rest of the country miserable, too. And it's just a basic fact," he said. "You look at Kamala Harris, Pete Buttigieg, AOC — the entire future of the Democrats is controlled by people without children. And how does it make any sense that we've turned our country over to people who don't really have a direct stake in it?"

(Buttigieg would announce just weeks afterward that he and his husband had adopted newborn twins, after repeated failed attempts at adoption.)

As it turns out, Vance's comments, made to then-host Tucker Carlson on Fox News in 2021, were only the latest in a long line of specious societal critiques in speeches and writings dating from his book's publication in 2016, critiques that grew increasingly nasty and partisan as Vance advanced in Republican politics. In fact, Carlson said he invited Vance on his show because the Senate candidate had made a speech the previous week assailing "the childless left."

After the show, Vance promoted his comments in fundraising

See FINALLY on Page 7

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Israel's tactical assassinations come with huge strategic risk

By MARC CHAMPION
Bloomberg Opinion

Marc Champion is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering Europe, Russia and the Middle East. He was previously Istanbul bureau chief for the Wall Street Journal.

With the death of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran, Israel appears to have eliminated top officials in two organizations committed to its destruction within the space of a day.

On Tuesday, in what appears to have been a drone strike, Israel said it killed Hezbollah's deputy military commander, Fuad Shukr. In one sense, this is nothing new. Israel has killed dozens of Hamas and Hezbollah officials and militants over the years.

The executions, invariably conducted in the name of deterrence, changed little, even if they demonstrated brutally impressive Israeli capabilities. The attacks came in response to the deaths—attributed by Israel to Hezbollah rockets—of 12 Arab teenagers from the minority Druze religious sect in the occupied Golan Heights.

So at a time when innocent civilians are being killed daily—by their thousands when it comes to Palestinians in Gaza—it's also disingenuous to pretend any moral outrage over the loss of two men whose hands had been steeped in blood for decades.

Even so, there are reasons to fear this pair of assassinations could soon light the fuse to a potentially catastrophic regional war that would be in the interests of neither Israel, Lebanon nor Iran.The first of these is the locations of the strikes, in Beirut and Tehran, a decision inevitably seen in both capitals as a serious Israeli escalation. Hezbollah and Iran have pledged retaliation.

The second reason to fear a wider war is the choice of Haniyeh as a target. This, again, came as no surprise; Israel already had killed much of his family. But Haniyeh was the political face of Hamas, living in exile in Qatar, and the man responsible for handling negotiations over a cease-fire in Gaza. While Hamas is an opaque organization, he was widely viewed as the more pragmatic of its leaders, particularly when compared with the group's fanatical commander in Gaza, Yahya Sinwar.

It's hard to see how killing Haniyeh can facilitate those talks, or to overestimate how critical their outcome will be to the region's future. Hezbollah has long made clear that it will stop firing on northern Israel only once a cease-fire in Gaza has been reached. That matters, because Israeli officials have made equally clear that if the shooting doesn't end in time to return evacuees and open schools on Sept. 1, they will do what it takes—including a ground invasion of southern Lebanon—to build the buffer zone required to make them secure.

At the same time, a truce in Gaza is a prerequisite for the potentially far-reaching peace deal envisioned by Washington, which would include a security pact with Saudi Arabia. This agreement would include a political resolution for Gaza, stabilize Israel's position in the region and isolate Iran. In other words, the stakes could hardly be higher. Negotiators thought they were close, yet an agreement remains elusive. Each side has, plausibly, accused the other of adding new demands to scuttle the talks.

Ever since the savage attack Hamas launched against Israel on Oct. 7, Sinwar has made no secret that his goal is to widen the conflict, first of all by drawing in Hezbollah. By obstructing peace in Gaza, he makes that more likely and delays the personal reckoning he may face from ordinary Palestinians in Gaza when the shooting stops.

His decisions have brought them devastation, as was his intent.Within Israel, the extreme and, frankly, unhinged nature of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition government has never been clearer.

In recent days, far-right Israelis—including at least one Knesset legislator—stormed a military detention center to protest the arrest of army reservists, found by an internal investigation to have tortured and sodomized Palestinians detainees.

These, too, are fanatics. Some have said openly that there should be no limits to the mistreatment of Palestinian prisoners, or to the Jewish annexation and settlement of occupied Palestinian territories. They're also adamant that there should be no Gaza cease-fire.There is a symmetry here that no appeals to Israel's special status as a civilized democracy at war with "barbarism"—such as Netanyahu made in a July 24 address to a joint session of the U.S. Congress—can conceal.

Because only by appeasing the extremists in his cabinet can Netanyahu remain in power. And only while in office can he delay the reckoning he too will face when the war ends, in the form of criminal corruption charges and an investigation into the failures that permitted Hamas' Oct. 7 attack to succeed.

This is a tragedy. The deep flaws of individuals are threatening to turn an opportunity, no matter how complex and fragile, into unmitigated disaster for both Palestinians and Israelis.Israel must know, after Hamas' survival through almost 10 months of total war in Gaza and multiple fruitless past attempts to wipe out Hezbollah in Lebanon, that it can't achieve security by force alone.

Yet by throwing up new demands for a Gaza cease-fire (such as retaining control of the so-called Philadelphia corridor along the border with Egypt), and killing the Hamas leader who was overseeing cease-fire negotiations, Netanyahu appears bent on cutting off all other paths.

As Boaz Ganor, the counter-terrorism expert and president of Israel's Reichman University, said recently, "Hamas is a tactical threat, Hezbollah is a strategic threat, and Iran is an existential threat." By treating Hamas—a relatively weak and geographically isolated force—as more than it is, he warned, the country has been playing right into the hands of its enemies. He's right.

If Netanyahu now opens a second front against Hezbollah in Lebanon, then regardless of the provocation he will be responsible not just for the failures of Oct. 7, but for turning a manageable tactical threat into one that risks the future of Israel's thriving economy, its democracy and potentially the state itself.

No wonder 64% of Israelis said in a recent poll for Israel's Channel 12 by the Midgam research firm that they favor a Gaza cease-fire. No wonder 72% said their prime minister should resign.

FINALLY

From page 6

emails. "Fighting back won't be easy — our childless opponents have a lot of free time," he snidely wrote in one. In his attacks against the allegedly anti-family Democrats, Vance typically labeled them "sociopaths" and named Harris as the lead avatar. Fact check: Harris years ago became a stepmom to her husband's two children, and no less than his ex-wife, their mother, attests to Harris' co-parenting cred.

That Vance's record of lambasting childless cat ladies is years long, not just a throwaway line to like-minded Carlson, suggests one of two things: Either Trump knew the record and saw no problems there, or his veep vetters missed it.

Whichever it is, here's the good news: Finally Trump is having to answer for abhorrent remarks, even if they're not his own, and potentially paying a political price. We can hope.

TERROR

From page 6

cer were killed by Israel and not an Iranian rocket fired by Hezbollah. Of course, Israel did it.

In May, the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court requested arrest warrants for three top Hamas men for crimes against humanity and war crimes related to the Oct. 7 attack on Israel. The three men were Ismail Haniyeh, Mohammed Deif and Yahya Sinwar.

Haniyeh's funeral is today in Tehran. The Israel Defense Forces may have very likely killed Deif in southern Gaza a few weeks ago. That leaves only Sinwar still hiding in the Hamas tunnels under Gaza.

It took four decades to catch up with Shukr. Hopefully, Sinwar's days are numbered.

©2024 New York Daily News.

Balloons can't stop bullets

By MELISSA RAE SANGER
Tribune News Service

Melissa Rae Sanger is a licensed veterinary technician and a staff writer for the PETA Foundation.

Gun violence is rarely far from the headlines—and it's never far from the hearts of those affected by it. As a mother with a personal connection to the massacre at Oxford High School in Michigan, I understand the need to honor those lost to such shootings and to do all we can to prevent other tragedies. Events like Balloons to Heaven Day (August 6) seek to do that.

But helium balloons never actually make it to heaven. They fall back to Earth—deflated or in pieces—as litter, every time. And when they do, they cause additional suffering and needless deaths. This seems quite different from what participants intend or want.

When balloons descend from the sky, they go wherever the wind takes them. Colorful pieces of latex land in the ocean and are eaten by sea turtles who mistake them for jellyfish; their ribbons get stuck in trees, where birds, squirrels and other animals become entangled in them; and pieces of them land in pastures, where grazing animals ingest them.

Experts list balloons among the items that are most deadly to marine wildlife. One study showed that a "biodegradable" balloon still retained its elasticity after 12 months in seawater. Shiny Mylar balloons last for years.

Last year, a young Gervais' beaked whale was spotted struggling and rolling around in the surf off Emerald Isle, North Carolina. Soon after she washed ashore, she died. A team of scientists later determined what killed her: a Mylar balloon crumpled in her stomach. They suspected that because she also had milk in her stomach, she was still nursing and was just starting to learn how to find her own food when she ate the balloon.

A study published in the journal Scientific Reports found that balloon litter is the plastic debris that poses the highest risk to seabirds. During an examination of more than 1,700 deceased seabirds, researchers concluded that balloons or balloon fragments killed nearly one in five of those who swallowed them.

Balloons are dangerous for land animals, too. In Garden Valley, California, a nursing mother cow died from ingesting a balloon. Her young calf was found bellowing beside her body. A balloon may seem small compared to a cow, but it can easily suffocate one of these animals if inhaled or cause a blockage in the digestive tract, leading to starvation and death, if ingested.

Balloon releases have also harmed humans. After Cleveland's Balloonfest released 1.5 million balloons, they drifted back over the city, falling and causing numerous traffic accidents. They also littered the surface of Lake Erie, preventing the Coast Guard from finding two people who had fallen off a boat. In another case, a bunch of helium balloons is thought to have caused a fatal plane crash that started a 50-acre brush fire near Brea, California. And the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has stated, "Of all children's products, balloons are the leading cause of suffocation death."

Although several U.S. states have banned mass balloon releases, balloons don't follow any laws other than the laws of gravity. They can travel for miles, often landing far away. After elementary school children in England released 300 balloons with notes written on them, people found these balloons in Denmark and the Netherlands. One of them traveled all the way to New South Wales, Australia, more than 10,500 miles away. It's anyone's guess how many animals died due to eating or becoming entangled in the balloons that weren't found.

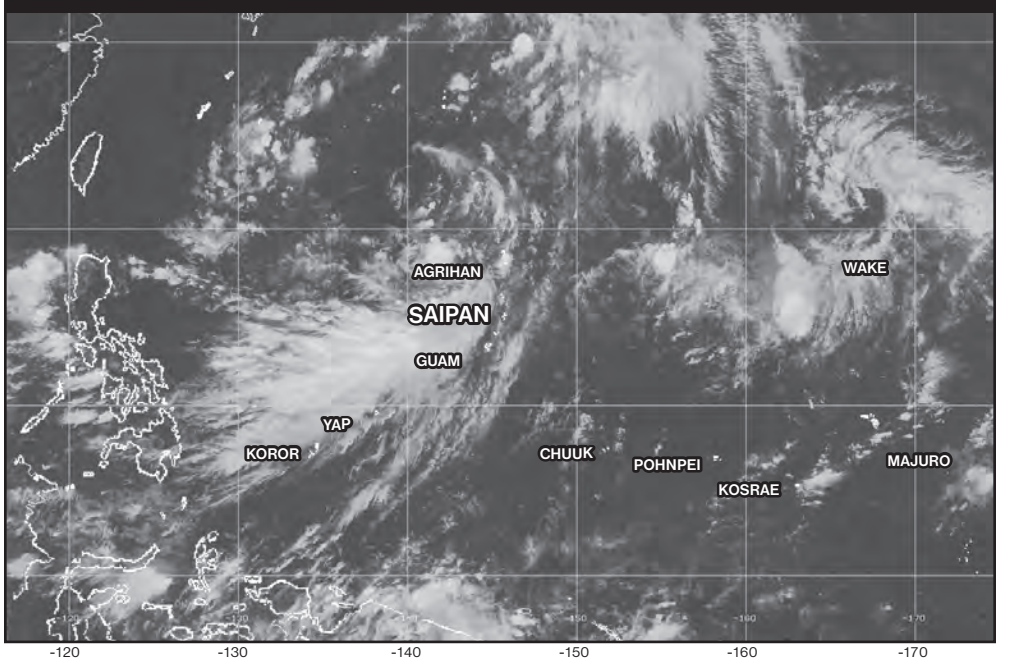
Fortunately, there are many ways to honor loved ones, raise awareness and deliver messages to heaven without endangering animals or polluting the planet. Planting a tree, attending or hosting a march for nonviolence or spending a day volunteering are just a few meaningful alternatives. You could even clean up a beach or natural area in a loved one's memory. And if you hear about an event that uses balloons, please share this information. You just might save a life.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy	Isolated showers. Partly sunny.	Partly sunny.	Mostly sunny.	Mostly sunny.
86° 78°	86° 79°	86° 79°	87° 79°	87° 79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:12 AM SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A Flood Advisory (FLS) was issued earlier, effective until 8AM, for all the island forecast zones; Saipan, Tinian, Rota and Guam. Radar shows widespread moderate rain with pockets of heavy rain, while satellite shows areas of deep convection developing nearby, just northwest of the Marianas, and embedded in the upstream flow to our southwest. Otherwise continued with previous forecast trends.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: https://www.weather.gov/gum/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Cloudy	84° / 75°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	86° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	85° / 78°
Kosrae	Light Rain Shower	87° / 72°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:00 AM	6:45 PM
Tuesday	6:00 AM	6:44 PM
Wednesday	6:00 AM	6:44 PM
Thursday	6:01 AM	6:44 PM
Friday	6:01 AM	6:43 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	6:24 AM	7:27 PM	-
Tuesday	7:14 AM	8:04 PM	-
Wednesday	8:02 AM	8:38 PM	-
Thursday	8:48 AM	9:11 PM	-
Friday	9:33 AM	9:43 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	57° / 46°
Beijing	Fair	89° / 77°
Hong Kong	Fair	91° / 81°
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	87° / 75°
London	Rain	64° / 63°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	90° / 73°
Manila	Fair	91° / 79°
Melbourne	Rain	52° / 41°
Miami	Thunderstorms	88° / 83°
New York	Cloudy	88° / 72°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	99° / 85°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	81° / 64°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	84° / 75°
Rome	Sunny	102° / 75°
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	88° / 70°
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	67° / 58°
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	96° / 79°
Tokyo	Fair	96° / 80°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	93° / 73°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:29 AM	Low Tide	1.31
7:14 AM	High Tide	1.97
2:37 PM	Low Tide	-0.03
9:32 PM	High Tide	1.93

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 1, 2024

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily

SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily
UA193	6:50PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily
7C3471	5:50PM	9:30PM	Daily (July 17 to Aug 17)

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX77	4:05AM	7:00AM	1, 5

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA825	5:30PM	9:55PM	2, 4, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
UA184	11:50PM	5:45AM+1	2, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily
7C2306/3472	11:10PM	4:40PM+1	Daily (July 17 to Aug 17)
UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
7C3472	11:05AM	4:40PM	Daily (July 17 to Aug 17)
TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

HX76	7:25PM	2:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

UOG's Faith Toves named PCAOB scholar, receives $15,000 award

Faith Antonia Toves has been honored as the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board scholar for the academic year 2024-2025. She received a $15,000 award toward her college education for her academic excellence and dedication to the field of accounting.

Toves, a senior majoring in Accounting at the University of Guam, is on track to graduate in 2025. Reflecting on her academic journey, she shared, "I took an accounting class in high school and genuinely enjoyed it. I felt my skill set was fit for accounting, so I decided to pursue it as a career. After I graduated from George Washington High School, I got my associate's degree in accounting at GCC, then transferred to UOG to further my education."

Her journey has not been without challenges. "The most challenging aspect would be handling personal issues while going to school. I think it's easy to get work done when everything is going well, but it takes a lot of determination to keep giving your best when times are tough. Although I have faced some challenges in my personal life, I work hard to ensure it doesn't affect my academic responsibilities," Toves explained.

Toves says that the scholarship will make a significant impact. "I've always been concerned with how to pay for school, so receiving such a generous scholarship is a great blessing and opportunity. It will allow me to complete my bachelor's degree in accounting, and will enable me to graduate with enough credits to pursue a CPA," she said.

UOG

University of Guam Accounting senior major Faith Antonia Toves was recently named a 2024-2025 Public Company Accounting Oversight Board scholar. She received a $15,000 award towards her college education for her academic excellence and dedication to the field of accounting.

"The PCAOB scholarship is a well-deserved recognition of Faith's academic and personal achievements—one which the entire SBPA community celebrates and honors," said Dr. Roseann M. Jones, dean of the UOG School of Business and Public Administration. "We are grateful to have the dedication of her faculty and the generosity of the PCAOB. With this support, we achieve our collective goal of preparing the finest accounting professionals."

Dr. Doreen Crisostomo-Muña, professor of accounting, expressed pride in Toves' accomplishments. "Faith was recognized for her academic achievements and community service contributions. As a member of the Junior Accountants Society, she advocates for the accounting profession within our university and the broader community. We take great pride in her accomplishments and believe she will continue to flourish and contribute substantially to the accounting field and our community."

Since 2011, the PCAOB has administered a scholarship program for undergraduate and graduate accounting students enrolled in accredited U.S. colleges and universities. The PCAOB Scholars Program is mandated by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and is funded through monetary penalties collected as part of PCAOB enforcement actions. The PCAOB Scholars Program seeks to benefit students who are likely to become auditors and to make a difference to students who might otherwise choose a different career path. For more, visit: PCAOB Scholars Program. ***(PR)***

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net
Tels: (670) 234-9447 / 234-6866 / 234-7670 • Fax: (670) 234-9021

PUBLIC NOTICE

JULY 22, 2024

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after **August 07, 2024,** the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Project Funding Grant (CPF) pursuant to the authority of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103); and the Explanatory Statement of Division of that Act, which was printed in the House Section of the Congressional Record on March 09, 2022 (Explanatory Statement); and superseding provisions of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328).

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
New Construction: Generator house and ongoing maintenance of a generator.	To provide ongoing services to victims of domestic violence and human trafficking during weather events and long-term power outages in Saipan.	**Recipient Location:** Dandan, Saipan **Original Location for the project:** Confidential	$50,000.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will not significantly impact the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan. It may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by **August 07, 2024, 4:30 p.m.,** will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands before authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Arnold I. Palacios consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of **fifteen days** following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the **U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, Honolulu Field Office, 1003 Bishop Street, Suite 2100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813** and CPDHonolulu@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor, CNMI

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net
Tels: (670) 234-9447 / 234-6866 / 234-7670 • Fax: (670) 234-9021

PUBLIC NOTICE

July 22, 2024

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after **August 07, 2024,** the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
New Construction: Childcare Facility (Rota)	Construct a concrete Early Childhood Learning Facility to provide quality care services that will support the overall development of young children in Rota.	Lot No. 345 R 524, Sinapalo III, Rota	$450,000.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will not significantly impact the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan. It may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by **August 07, 2024, 4:30 p.m.,** will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands before authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Arnold I. Palacios consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of **fifteen days** following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the **U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Planning and Development, Honolulu Field Office, 1003 Bishop Street, Suite 2100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813** and CPDHonolulu@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor, CNMI

LOCAL

OIA hosts 3rd Territorial Climate and Infrastructure Workshop

HONOLULU, Hawaii—The Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor and the Office of Insular Affairs hosted the 3rd Annual Territorial Climate and Infrastructure Workshop in Honolulu from July 30 to Aug. 2, 2024. The TCIW3.0 convened climate and infrastructure officials from territories and federal agencies, along with others to highlight transformational investments from President Biden's Investing in America agenda in the U.S. territories and to facilitate conversations on how implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act can be most successful.

"The interagency and cross-cutting discussions we have shared this week to highlight implementation efforts has been extremely useful," said Cantor. "Through President Biden's Investing in America agenda, we are delivering historic investments to the territories that will build resilience for the future, especially as climate change continues to impact these areas."

This year's TCIW3.0 facilitated direct conversations and roundtable working sessions on next steps for successful project implementation in the territories. The workshop emphasized in-person engagement and maximized productive conversations from face-to-face interaction among more than 250 representatives from the territories, federal agencies, and partner organizations participating in person, and another 75 or more representatives attending virtually. Previous workshops were held in 2022 and 2023.

Topics addressed during the workshop included water, energy, built infrastructure, invasive species, nature-based solutions, and broadband. Additional sessions were held on coral restoration, environmental justice, offshore wind energy development, biosecurity, food system infrastructure, gray-to-green solutions, and solid waste management.

Federal agency partners who participated in this year's workshop were from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Communications Commission, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of the Interior, and the Department of Transportation.

To date, the Office of Insular Affairs has provided $3.9 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding for climate and infrastructure restoration projects in the territories. Additionally, the Inflation Reduction Act provided the Office of Insular Affairs with $15 million to support climate change planning, mitigation, adaptation and resilience for the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the CNMI, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

These historic investments will help the territories implement and execute projects that will address many significant challenges related to ecosystem restoration and climate change. Projects supported in the territories to date include trainings and workshops to enhance biosecurity efforts, the development of databases and strategies for countering invasive species, and reclamation and restoration efforts that will protect and restore critical ecosystems in the territories. Additionally, these investments are supporting the development of climate-related planning documents, updating models related to sea-level rise, and supporting the valuation of where potential coral reef restoration could decrease the hazards of erosion and flooding faced by coastal communities in the Pacific territories.

In 2023, the department launched a BIL map tracking projects across the United States that also includes the territories. ***(PR)***

1st Year Death Anniversary
We, the family of the late
†Ethan Franklin Henrick Babauta
would like to invite relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the 1st year death anniversary of our beloved Ethan Franklin.
Mass of intention will be offered at St. Jude Church beginning:
Aug 07-10, 2024 @6:00pm (Wednesday - Saturday)
Aug 11, 2024 @6:00am (Sunday)
Aug 12-15, 2024 @6:00pm (Monday - Thursday)
On the final day, August 15, 2024 (Thursday), after the mass, dinner will be serve at the family's residence in Dandan.
Your presence, thoughts, and prayers are greatly appreciated
Thank you &
Si Yu'us Ma'ase.
From the Family

Business

BOG celebrates 3 on winning SBA administration awards

BOG

Bank of Guam congratulates Sara Pleadwell Doctor and Monique Genereux Amani, owners of MoSa's Joint, on being awarded the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2024 Veteran Small Business Champion of Year. Pictured, from left, Joaquin P. L.G. Cook, president and chief executive officer, Bank of Guam; Maria Eugenia H. Leon Guerrero, executive vice president and chief operating officer, Bank of Guam; Monique Genereux Amani, co-owner, MoSa's Joint, Amarii Amani; Sara Pleadwell Doctor, co-owner, MoSa's Joint; Kenneth Q. Lujan, branch manager, Guam Branch Office, U.S. SBA; and Elmy Bermejo, regional administrator, U.S. SBA.

BOG

Bank of Guam congratulates Jessica Leon Guerrero, president, M80 Systems Inc. on being awarded the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2024 Guam Small Business Person of the Year. Pictured, from left, Maria Eugenia H. Leon Guerrero, executive vice president and chief operating officer, Bank of Guam; Joaquin P. L.G. Cook, president and chief executive officer, Bank of Guam; Jessica Leon Guerrero, president and owner, M80 Systems Inc.; Carlo Leon Guerrero, vice president and general manager, M80 Systems Inc.; Elmy Bermejo, regional administrator, U.S. SBA; and Kenneth Q. Lujan, branch manager, Guam Branch Office, U.S. SBA.

HAGÅTÑA, Guam—Bank of Guam celebrates Guam's winners of the 2024 U.S. Small Business Administration Awards.

Jessica Leon Guerrero, president, M80 Systems Inc., was awarded the 2024 Guam Small Business Person of the Year. Sara Pleadwell Doctor and Monique Genereux Amani, owners of MoSa's Joint, were awarded the 2024 Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year for Guam.

In December 2023, Bank of Guam submitted nominations for Leon Guerrero and Doctor and Amani for the U.S. SBA Awards. To celebrate their recognition and remarkable achievement, Bank of Guam hosted a celebration mixer on July 17th at the M80 offices.

During the celebration, SBA Guam Branch manager Kenneth Lujan and SBA regional administrator Elmy Bermejo, presented the awards to this year's honorees. Bermejo oversees SBA programs, offices, and operations in the SBA's Pacific region, serving Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, and Nevada. This marks the first time a regional administrator has presented awards to Guam winners.

"Having known and worked with Jessica over the years, we've witnessed firsthand her incredible journey both as a business leader and community partner. Her entrepreneurial spirit, inspired by her family's legacy in business, has been the driving force behind her successful leadership at M80. What truly sets Jessica apart is her ability to recognize and pursue opportunities that are not just good for business but also make an impact in our community. Congratulations Jessica on this well-deserved recognition!" said Joaquin P. L.G. Cook, president and chief executive Officer, Bank of Guam and the U.S. SBA-2020 Financial Services Champion of the Year.

Leon Guerrero exemplifies entrepreneurship and community dedication through her role as a business leader, wife and mother of five. Leading her woman-owned, HUB Zone Certified Small Business with M80, Leon Guerrero passionately transforms visions into reality, as a leading solutions provider in the region.

Beyond business, she's deeply involved in community service, holding positions as Treasurer of the Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce, Advisory Board Member of the American Cancer Society Guam Chapter, and Chairwoman of the Guam Children's Museum board. Leon Guerrero was also recognized with the Reina A. Leddy Guam Young Professional of the Year in 2019 and was nominated for Guam's Businesswoman of the Year. She is a graduate of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business Entrepreneurship Program. ***(PR)***

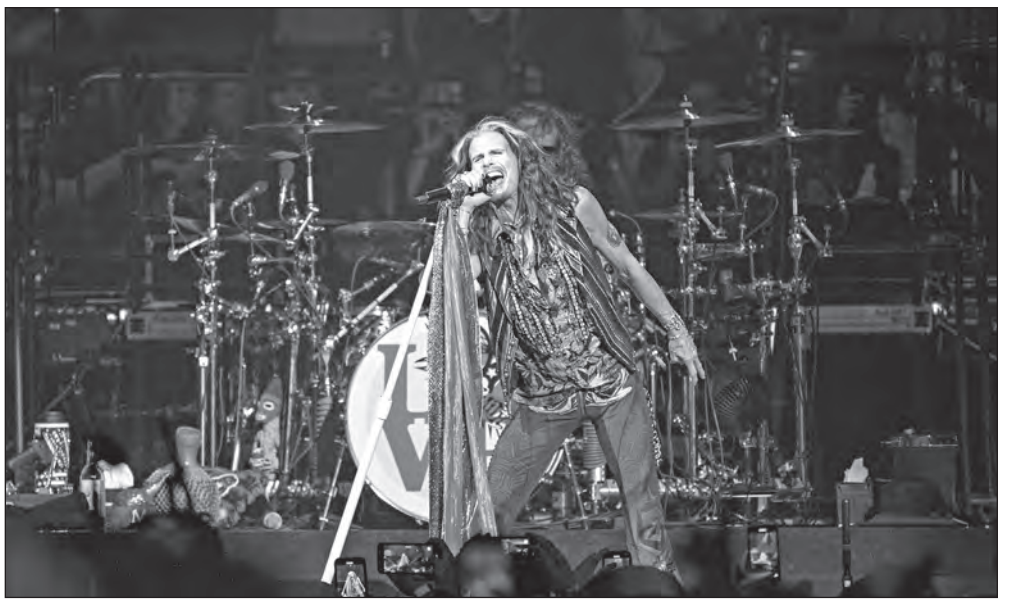
Life & Style

Aerosmith retires from touring, citing permanent damage to Steven Tyler's voice last year

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Aerosmith says Steven Tyler's voice has been permanently damaged by a vocal cord injury last year and the band will no longer tour.

The iconic band behind hits like "Love in an Elevator" and "Livin' on the Edge" posted a statement Friday announcing the cancellation of remaining dates on its tour and provided an update on Tyler's voice.

"He has spent months tirelessly working on getting his voice to where it was before his injury. We've seen him struggling despite having the best medical team by his side. Sadly, it is clear, that a full recovery from his vocal injury is not possible," the statement said. "We have made a heartbreaking and difficult, but necessary, decision— as a band of brothers—to retire from the touring stage."



AP

Steven Tyler of Aerosmith performs during night one of their "Peace Out: The Farewell Tour" on Sept. 2, 2023, at Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia.

Tyler announced he injured his vocal cords in September during a show on its Peace Out: The Farewell Tour. Tyler said in an Instagram statement at the time that the injury caused bleeding but that he hoped the band would be back after postponing a few shows.

Tyler's soaring vocals have powered Aerosmith's massive catalog of hits since its formation in 1970, including "Dream On," "Walk This Way" and "Sweet Emotion." They were near the start of a 40-date farewell tour when Tyler was injured.

"We've always wanted to blow your mind when performing. As you know, Steven's voice is an instrument like no other," the band said in Friday's statement to fans.

"It has been the honor of our lives to have our music become part of yours," the band said. "In every club, on every massive tour and at moments grand and private you have given us a place in the soundtrack of your lives."

Aerosmith is a Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductee and a four-time Grammy winning band. In addition to Tyler, its members are Joe Perry, Brad Whitford, Tom Hamilton and Joey Kramer.

MrBeast's giant reality competition faces safety complaints from initial contestants

NEW YORK (AP)— YouTube's biggest star MrBeast is facing complaints about the safety of contestants from the preliminary round of his ambitious "Beast Games" game show, which boasts 1,000 competitors hoping for a $5 million grand prize.

Some contestants complained online and to other YouTube influencers that they lacked regular access to food, water and medication during early production at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas, and that some competitors were injured during the production.

A spokesperson for MrBeast said his team is reviewing the process and soliciting attendees' feedback ahead of the next phase of production in Toronto.

The stakes for "Beast Games" aren't just high for the contestants, but for MrBeast himself, whose real name Jimmy Donaldson, as well as the recipients of his brand of "stunt philanthropy" that often entails direct gifts of cash or even houses. The complaints about the "Beast Games" production coincide with Donaldson's acknowledgement this week that he used racial and homophobic slurs years ago in recordings he made as a teenager.

Donaldson

The show, which has already been picked up by Amazon Prime Video to air in 240 countries, is part of Donaldson's cultural expansion beyond YouTube—where his channel has 307 million subscribers, including countless young consumers who already purchase his Feastables line of candy or the burgers that bear his name.

"My goal is to make the greatest show possible and prove YouTubers and creators can succeed on other platforms," Donaldson said in a March press release from Amazon.

Donaldson's companies cast 2,000 people to take part in an initial tryout of sorts at Allegiant Stadium in July, with 1,000 of them presumably advancing to the actual show. Amazon Prime Video was not involved and did not respond to a request for comment.

A MrBeast spokesperson said Friday that the promotional video shoot was "unfortunately complicated" by extreme weather, the widespread CrowdStrike outage that wreaked global technological havoc and "other unexpected logistical and communications issues."

We "have taken steps to ensure that we learn from this experience and we are excited to welcome hundreds of men and women to the world's largest game show in history," the spokesperson said in an emailed statement.

MrBeast offered eliminated contestants $1,000 upon leaving the competition and the spokesperson said most of those who remain in contention are ready to keep going.

Some contestants expected challenges similar to those from the dystopian Netflix show "Squid Game," a fictional series — and eventual reality game show—where deeply indebted people compete for millions in high-stakes children's games.

The Associated Press reached out to several contestants about "Beast Games," but most either did not respond or declined to speak on the record because they had signed nondisclosure agreements.

Scott Leopold, a 53-year-old father from Austin, Texas, told the AP he thought he was competing in the actual "Beast Games," not a precursor to the show. He said he felt deceived about his chances of winning and that the competition in Las Vegas would not stream on Amazon Prime Video.

He said that Donaldson should not be "villainized" but added that "an apology would go a long way."

"All I can conclude is that he was in over his head," Leopold said. "There were too many people, and I don't think he knew how to handle the situation."

Nancy Libby, a Navy veteran from California who said she was one of the last people eliminated, told AP that she applied after seeing a casting call on Facebook. Her daughters watch MrBeast videos, she said, and she'd already planned to take off work anyway.

On-set conditions met her expectations. Libby said she was instructed by recruiters beforehand to watch previous MrBeast challenges to gain some understanding of the experience. Because of that, she said, she was unsurprised by meals of oatmeal and nights spent sleeping on the floor.

Long wait for boyfriend becomes bitter over time

DEAR ABBY: I admire your wit and appreciate your candor, which is why I'm writing to you. I've been dating a man for 4 1/2 years. He's 56; I'm 60. I hope for a life with him, marriage, a place of our own, etc. The only obstacle is his obligation to look after his aging parents and help them stay in their home, which he promised them years ago.

At first, I was OK waiting for him to finish with them and looking forward to a time for us. I tried to help. I even moved into his parents' home with the three of them, as I am a certified home care aide, but his mother was impossible. Even though it was her idea that I move in, it became obvious that she didn't want my help with anything. She even banned me from "her" kitchen.

I spent six months there, sleeping in my own room, separated from my love, because in their world, if you're not married and you're having sex, you're a sinner who's going to hell. Of course, we were having sex discreetly, but apparently not discreetly enough, because his mother was absolutely certain we were having sex in her house against her rules.

Abby, it was a nightmare. There was more involved, but I was ultimately turned out of the house with no notice. LONG story short: I don't know if I can wait much longer for the life with him I want. Who knows how long this will go on. I'm losing faith it will ever work out. What do you advise?

RESTLESS IN WASHINGTON

DEAR RESTLESS: You and your boyfriend are adults and entitled to a sex life if you want one. That he allowed his controlling mother to "turn you out of the house with no notice" (!) and couldn't find the courage to enlighten her that if you left, he would be out of there, too, should have been the wake-up call you needed to move on.

Four and a half years has been long enough to wait. If you want the life you describe, your chances will be far better if you continue looking for a man who is available, because this one clearly isn't.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My son married a girl from Taiwan. She's sweet but very uncultured. I have tried for more than 10 years to get along with her, but it has been very hard. We have nothing in common except my son.

She doesn't cook very often, or clean or do laundry. Her English is terrible. She dresses poorly, has no interest in her home and celebrates no holidays. We are never invited to dinner. We always entertain them. They have no children.

Our relationship with our son is strong, but I have grown to dislike her. She does very little for him. Her interest in saving money at the expense of any enjoyment is sad. I don't know what to do. Help, please.

DISAPPOINTED IN TEXAS

DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR DISAPPOINTED: OK, so she's not your ideal daughter-in-law. Your son married this woman for a reason. The question is, does she make HIM happy? If the answer is yes, devote your energy to focusing on that rather than your negative feelings about her. And when you entertain them, rather than do it grudgingly, remember you are doing it for HIM. (And smile.)

■■■

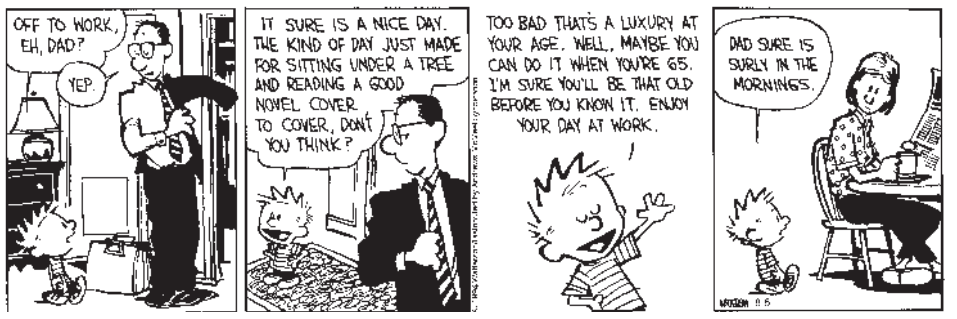
To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

COPYRIGHT 2024 ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

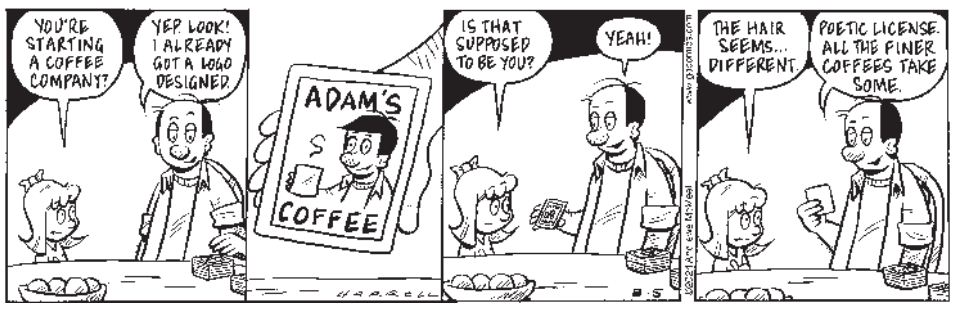

OFF TO WORK, EH, DAD?
YEP.
IT SURE IS A NICE DAY. THE KIND OF DAY JUST MADE FOR SITTING UNDER A TREE AND READING A GOOD NOVEL. COVER TO COVER, DON'T YOU THINK?
TOO BAD THAT'S A LUXURY AT YOUR AGE. WELL, MAYBE YOU CAN DO IT WHEN YOU'RE 65. I'M SURE YOU'LL BE THAT OLD BEFORE YOU KNOW IT. ENJOY YOUR DAY AT WORK.
DAD SURE IS SURLY IN THE MORNINGS.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

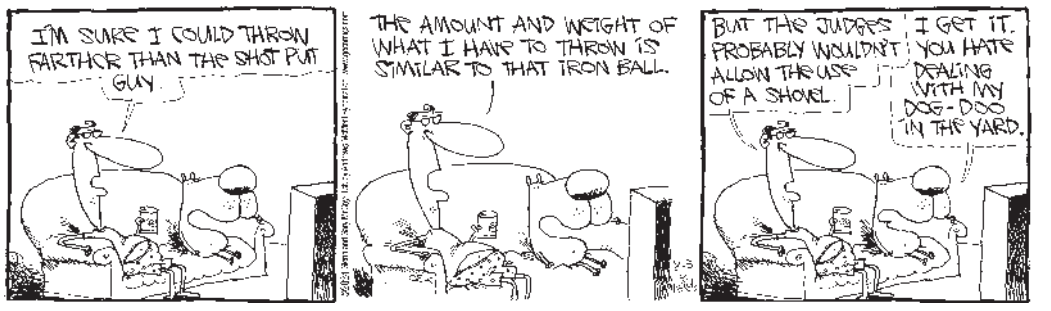
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


YOU'RE STARTING A COFFEE COMPANY?
YEP. LOOK! I ALREADY GOT A LOGO DESIGNED.
ADAM'S COFFEE
IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE YOU?
YEAH!
THE HAIR SEEMS... DIFFERENT.
POETIC LICENSE. ALL THE FINER COFFEES TAKE SOME.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


I'M SURE I COULD THROW FARTHER THAN THE SHOT PUT GUY.
THE AMOUNT AND WEIGHT OF WHAT I HAVE TO THROW IS SIMILAR TO THAT IRON BALL.
BUT THE JUDGES PROBABLY WOULDN'T ALLOW THE USE OF A SHOVEL.
I GET IT. YOU HATE DEALING WITH MY DOG-DOO IN THE YARD.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

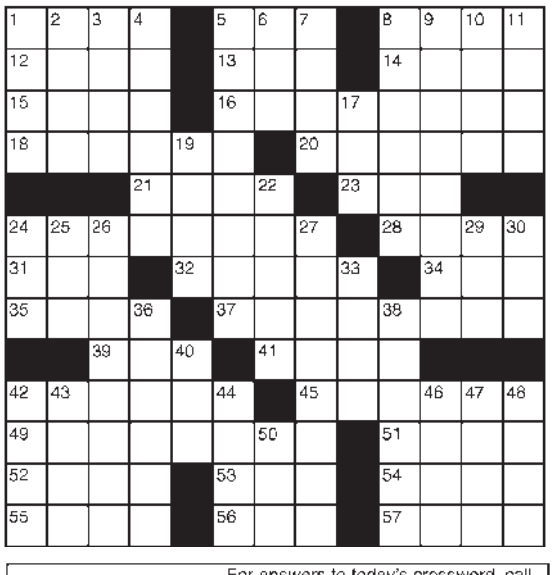
ACROSS
1 Tackled weeds
5 Tax pro
8 Speedy
12 Museo display
13 Texas tea
14 Plot unit
15 Repast
16 Current
18 Grave
20 Nike rival
21 Carry
23 Chemical suffix
24 Dessert made with palm fruit
28 FBI guy
31 Köln cry
32 "Presumed Innocent" author
34 Hostel
35 Kitten calls
37 Concert itinerary info
39 Gymnast — Raisman
41 Belgian river
42 Exit
45 Trapped by habit
49 News story starter
51 Get one's feet wet?
52 "Yeah, right"
53 Faux —
54 Love god
55 Turner and Danson
56 Boot camp VIP
57 Monthly payment

DOWN
1 Scene stealers
2 Popular cookie
3 List-ending abbr.
4 Computer key
5 Exclude
6 Domino spot
7 Utah ski resort
8 Getting tired
9 College life
10 Madrid miss (Abbr.)
11 Golf pegs
17 Keats creation
19 Humorist Sahl
22 "The Jetsons" boy
24 Weir
25 High card
26 Foiled
27 Most dreadful
29 Busy insect
30 SSW opposite
33 Wee songbird
36 Icy downpours
38 Dresser component
40 Designer monogram
42 Tend texts
43 Comedian Kaplan
44 Tries the coffee
46 Exceptional
47 Japanese noodle
48 Quiz
50 Pester

Solution time: 21 mins.

E	K	G		S	H	E	A		P	E	L	E
S	I	R		T	I	L	L		E	V	E	N
A	L	A	N	A	L	D	A		T	E	N	D
U	N	F	U	R	L		M	A	R			
			D	E	S		G	P	I	N	E	R
S	I	A	G	S		P	S	I		A	G	I
L	A	N	E		A	A	A		S	L	O	E
O	R	K		S	L	Y		T	E	A	L	S
B	A	A	B	A	A		D	E	R			
			A	L	B		I	T	U	N	E	S
J	O	H	N		A	L	A	R	M	I	S	T
O	P	E	D		M	O	N	A		L	S	U
I	E	N	S		A	X	E	D		S	O	B

Last Friday's answer 8-5



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lolo Jones, 42; Jesse Williams, 43; Jonathan Silverman, 58; Maureen McCormick, 68.

Happy Birthday: Follow your passion and pursue your dreams. Take the opportunity to move forward with a free spirit. Dedicate more time to developing what excites you and entertaining those who can help you reach your destination this year. Concentrate on what matters to you, and eliminate any notion that suggests you waste time on insignificant matters or unnecessary change. Live, learn and take the path that offers creative liberation. Your numbers are 6, 14, 21, 28, 34, 37, 49.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Take pride in what you do; someone who can further your interests will recognize and reward your ingenuity. Step outside your comfort zone and into the spotlight; it will change how people view you. Stop procrastinating and turn your good intentions into something concrete. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Trying to reinvent yourself isn't necessary. Be resourceful and call on basic skills you take for granted, and you'll find your comfort zone and spotlight. Personal improvements, fitness and intellectual growth will lead to new friendships. Initiate change that satisfies your needs. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Give yourself a kick-start and escalate your quest for health and fitness. Participation will work in your favor and bring you in contact with people who stimulate your mind and encourage you to look and feel your best. Abide by the rules. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Establish your ultimate goal and focus on finishing what you start. Take a cost-efficient route and treat yourself to something you want with the savings. A conversation will promote change; be sure it's what you want before you commit or donate time or money you can't spare. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* You can dream all you want, but you must be willing to put in the time and effort to expect to reap the rewards. Being enthusiastic and having a positive attitude will lead to momentum that provides the means to support your objective. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Embrace what's necessary and put it behind you. The more time you spend taking in the wonders around you, the less stress you'll feel and the more appreciative you'll become. A peaceful attitude will make it easier to distance yourself from toxic situations. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Concentrate on donations, investments and savings. Look for changes that lower your overhead, and quickly decline to pay for something you don't need. Advocate on your behalf to ensure you get the service you deserve. Be resourceful and willing to put in the effort to be successful. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Pay less attention to trivial matters and more to the experiences and projects that move you emotionally. An outlet that soothes the soul will help you recognize what's important and how to adjust your schedule to enhance your comfort. Don't wait; make things happen. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Remain calm, size up your situation, ask questions, and look for and take advantage of the best opportunity. Trust your instincts, not what someone leads you to believe. Don't give up or give in. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Deal with uncertainty by implementing a backup plan. Refrain from leaving anything undone or up to someone else to decide. Don't fear taking an obscure route; it will have benefits that will cure a pending emotional, health or financial problem. Being wise will pay off. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Stop procrastinating; make the necessary moves to find your happy place. Changes you make to your domestic domain will please you and those influenced by the results. An emotional situation will help you decide your next move. Don't get angry; adjust and move forward. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Take a break, give yourself time and space to think, and evaluate your next move. Refuse to let anyone talk you into something that feels unsafe or wrong. When in doubt, kick back and become a spectator. Have patience and make personal growth a priority. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are opportunity-driven, friendly and revolutionary. You are relentless and encouraging.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			5	6	1			3
7	6	3	2	8		5		
8				7	9		6	4
	3	8	6				2	9
			9	3				5
	9		7		2	3		
2			8					
3	8		1		7	6	4	
1	7			2				

Difficulty: ★ 8/5

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's Answer

9	8	3	5	2	4	6	1	7
1	5	2	3	7	6	4	9	8
4	6	7	9	8	1	3	5	2
5	7	6	1	4	3	2	8	9
2	4	8	7	5	9	1	6	3
3	1	9	2	6	8	7	4	5
8	2	1	6	3	5	9	7	4
6	3	5	4	9	7	8	2	1
7	9	4	8	1	2	5	3	6

Difficulty: ★★★★ 8/2

©2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

SHARPIE PENS **Solution: 8 letters**

M	E	A	S	U	R	E	R	U	T	A	N	G	I	S
T	N	E	M	N	G	I	S	S	A	C	H	F	T	P
H	O	U	T	L	I	N	E	A	L	E	A	O	E	A
I	I	F	K	N	I	K	C	A	L	B	N	O	V	C
N	T	E	F	M	A	R	K	E	R	E	Ⓓ	R	I	Q
L	C	L	D	I	A	R	Y	I	L	Ⓗ	W	P	S	U
L	U	T	R	N	C	T	C	B	Ⓐ	O	R	R	R	I
A	R	T	I	D	F	E	A	Ⓦ	O	E	I	E	U	C
B	T	I	E	O	K	T	P	D	F	L	T	T	C	K
R	S	P	S	C	C	R	D	I	O	B	E	A	H	D
E	N	A	I	A	E	N	L	G	R	S	L	W	I	R
L	O	L	R	C	A	L	O	O	H	C	S	U	S	Y
L	C	T	I	R	C	I	T	S	I	T	R	A	E	I
O	E	S	B	O	O	K	U	T	E	N	S	I	L	N
R	E	T	H	G	I	L	H	G	I	H	P	A	R	G

© 2024 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 8/5

Artistic, Assignment, Black Ink, Blue, Book, Brand, Caps, Chisel, Click, Construction, Cursive, Diary, Draw, Dries, Fabric, Felt Tip, Glass, Graph, Handwrite, Highlighter, Logo, Marker, Measure, Office, Outline, Precise, Quick-drying, Refill, Retractable, Rollerball, School, Signature, Soft, Stone, Thin, Utensil, Waterproof, Wood

Last Friday's answer : Weekend

The NEW **Volume 77** can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. or call 1-800-642-6480. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)

Biles, Ledecky win more gold; Richardson settles for silver

PARIS (AP)—Simone Biles and Katie Ledecky led a strong showing for the United States at the Paris Olympics as both Americans added to their gold-medal collection on Saturday on Day 8 of the Games.

Biles nailed her eponymous Yurchenko double pike vault to win the gold medal, the seventh of her Olympic career. She has 10 total medals so far, and has won gold in Paris in the team final, the all-around and the vault.

Following another winning performance, the 27-year-old Biles would not rule out a return to the Games when they are in Los Angeles in 2028.

Ledecky joined Michael Phelps as the only swimmers to win an event at four straight Summer Games.

Taking the 800-meter freestyle for the fourth time, Ledecky won her ninth Olympic race to match four others for second in any Games. Summer or Winter. Phelps holds the record with 23 gold medals.

The U.S. swim team also set a world record in the 4x100 mixed medley relay. Ryan Murphy, Nic Fink, Gretchen Walsh and Torri Huske held off China for a winning time of 3:37.43, breaking the mark of 3:37.58 set by Britain when it won gold in the event's Olympic debut three years ago.

It wasn't such a golden night at rain-soaked Stade de France, where American sprinter Sha'carri Silver won silver in the women's 100-meter dash.

Richardson was beat by Julien Alfred, who gave Saint Lucia its first ever Olympic medal with her victory. Alfred got off to a fantastic start, then powered through the rain and beat Richardson by .15 seconds—about three body lengths. It was the biggest margin in the women's Olympic 100 since 2008.

The Americans settled for silver and bronze for Richardson and Melissa Jefferson.

Earlier in the day, Noah Lyles finished second in a sluggish first-round qualifying heat to make the semifinals in the men's 100. The semifinals and finals for that race are set for Sunday.

AP

Simone Biles, of the United States, celebrates after winning the gold medal at the medal ceremony during the women's artistic gymnastics individual vault finals at Bercy Arena at the 2024 Summer Olympics, Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024, in Paris, France.

In another defeat, the Americans' 4x400 mixed relay was beat by the Netherlands a day after it set a world record in qualifying. Kaylyn Brown was chased down over the final 10 meters of the anchor leg by Dutch runner Femke Bol in the mild upset.

There was still one American victory at athletics: Ryan Crouser won his third straight gold in shot put by once again holding off countrymate Joe Kovacs, who took silver.

A look at other events that happened on Day 8 of the Paris Games:

Imane Khelif clinches medal at Paris Olympics

Boxer Imane Khelif of Algeria clinched a medal following days of sharp scrutiny and online abuse as misconceptions about her gender have exploded into a larger clash about identity in sports.

Khelif defeated Anna Luca Hamori of Hungary 5:0 in the quarterfinals of the women's 66-kilogram bout.

Khelif will win at least a bronze medal after defeating Hamori for the second victory of her tumultuous second trip to the Olympics.

US men's basketball rolls

The U.S. has the No. 1 seed going into the men's basketball medal round.

Anthony Edwards scored 26 points, and the Americans wrapped up the top spot coming out of group play with a 104-83 win over Puerto Rico.

The Americans are 3-0 in these Olympics and 8-0 so far this summer. They face Brazil in the win-or-go-home quarterfinals in Paris on Tuesday.

It was the first Olympic matchup between the U.S. and Puerto Rico since the Athens Games in 2004, when Puerto Rico ran away in the second quarter and went on to embarrass the Americans 92-73.

Zheng wins women's singles gold

Zheng Qinwen won China's first Olympic tennis singles gold medal with a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Donna Vekic of Croatia at Roland Garros.

It is the biggest win of the 21-year-old's career. Zheng is ranked No. 7 in the world and was the runner-up to Aryna Sabalenka at the hard-court Australian Open in January.

International Tennis Hall of Fame member Li Na is the only Chinese player to win a Grand Slam singles title—at the 2011 French Open and 2014 Australian Open—and served as inspiration for Zheng when she was a kid learning the sport.

Schauffele and Rahm share men's golf lead

A rowdy crowd at Le Golf National watched double major winner Xander Schauffele and Jon Rahm move into a tie at the top of the 54-hold leaderboard in Olympic men's golf.

Schauffele had a 68 and Rahm a 66 to share the lead. They are one shot ahead of Britain's Tommy Fleetwood. Nicolai Hojgaard of Denmark tied the course record with a 62 and is three behind. So is Hideki Matsuyama.

Not to be overlooked were Scottie Scheffler and Rory McIlroy. They were only four back going into the medal round Sunday.

US beats Japan in women's soccer to advance to the semifinals

The U.S advanced to the semifinals of the women's soccer tournament after beating Japan 1-0 on Trinity Rodman's goal in extra time.

The Americans will next face Germany on Tuesday with a spot in the final on the line.

American shooter wins fourth gold medal

U.S. shooter Vincent Hancock beat Conner Prince, his student, to capture his fourth Olympic gold medal in men's skeet.

Hancock coaches Prince, a first-time Olympian, and turned around to share a hug with his silver medal-winning student after making his last two shots to ensure the gold. He hit 58 out of 60 shots to Prince's 57.

Hancock won skeet gold at the Olympics in 2008, 2012 and 2021 and is the only skeet shooter to take the Olympic gold more than once.

10-time Olympian retires

Pistol shooter Nino Salukvadze has competed at the Olympics a record 10 times over 36 years and said Saturday she's retiring.

The 55-year-old from Georgia participated in the Paris Olympics to honor her late father, who was also her coach, and died at the age of 93 this year after seeing his daughter qualify for her 10th Olympics.

Salukvadze has three Olympic medals: one gold, one silver and one bronze. In Paris, she placed 38th in the 10-meter air pistol event and 40th in the 25-meter pistol.

Salukvadze's last Olympic medal—and her first for an independent Georgia—was in Beijing in 2008.

US rolls into Olympic quarterfinals as No. 1 seed, tops Puerto Rico in group finale

VILLENEUVE-D'ASCQ, France (AP)—Halfway to its goal of gold, the U.S. has the No. 1 seed going into the medal round at the Paris Olympics.

And now the real games start.

Anthony Edwards scored 26 points, six players reached double figures for the U.S. and the Americans wrapped up the top spot coming out of group play by rolling past Puerto Rico 104-83 on Saturday. A huge second-quarter run was the difference for the U.S., which is trying to medal for the 20th time in 20 Olympic appearances.

"I think we got done what we wanted to accomplish, winning all three games and securing the top seed," U.S. coach Steve Kerr said. "We know we have to play better. Part of this tournament is it gets harder as you go. Our goal is just to try to get better each game."

The Americans — 3-0 in these Olympics, 8-0 so far this summer—will see Brazil in the win-or-go-home quarterfinals in Paris on Tuesday.

"We better be ready to go," U.S. forward LeBron James said.

Joel Embiid scored 15 points for the U.S. Kevin Durant scored 11 points for the U.S. to get within five of matching Lisa Leslie for the all-time Olympic scoring record for the U.S.; he's at 483, and Leslie finished her career with 488 in Olympic play.

James finished with 10 points, eight assists and six rebounds in 18 minutes. Jayson Tatum had 10 points and 10 rebounds while Anthony Davis scored 10 for the U.S., which sat Jrue Holiday for precautionary reasons because of an ankle that he rolled in the Americans' win over South Sudan on Wednesday. Holiday will play in Tuesday's quarterfinals, Kerr said.

Jose Alvarado led Puerto Rico (0-3) with 18 points. Ismael Romero scored 12 and Aleem Ford finished with 10.

It was the first Olympic matchup between the nations since the Athens Games in 2004, when Puerto Rico ran away in the second quarter and went on to embarrass the U.S. 92-73 in what was James' debut in the tournament.

Little different story this time.

That day in Athens, Puerto Rico won the second quarter 28-7. This time, the U.S. won the second quarter 39-16. Give Puerto Rico credit; a team that came into Saturday knowing it was eliminated from contention took an eight-point lead late in the first quarter and still led 37-36 with 5:45 left in the half.

The rest of the half: U.S. 28, Puerto Rico 8. The run was quick and decisive.

"I think our talent took over in the second quarter and we started to wear them down," Kerr said. "Our defense kicked in and we had a great quarter, which opened up the game."

James had all six of his first-half assists during that burst and the Americans took a 64-45 lead into the break. He finished the flurry with a dunk in the final seconds, ran by his 2004 Athens teammate Dwyane Wade—now commentating for NBC, sitting courtside—while yelling something with a big smile and from there the countdown to wrapping up the No. 1 seed was officially on.

As would be expected, really.

It's been three games, three easy wins for the Americans so far in France: a 26-point opening victory over Serbia, a 17-point win over South Sudan to clinch the top spot in Group C, and then Saturday's game against Puerto Rico that once it got one-sided it stayed that way.

And in every game so far in France, it has been someone new leading the way, at least on the scoring front. Against Serbia, Durant had 23 and James had 21. Against South Sudan, Bam Adebayo scored 18. On Saturday, it was Edwards getting 26.

That's by design.

"It's weird because Ant goes off tonight, Bam went off the other night, KD the night before that, Bron's been consistent the whole time," U.S. guard Stephen Curry said. "Everybody else, you find your place with where shots are coming from. It's not like anybody is taking over every possession. So it's just a matter of staying locked in. You might touch the ball once or twice in a quarter, but you've got to be ready to take advantage of it."

White Sox's losing streak reaches 19 after Kepler lifts Twins to victory

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Chicago White Sox extended their team-record losing streak to 19, giving up Max Kepler's tiebreaking home run in the seventh inning that lifted the Minnesota Twins to a 6-2 win on Saturday night.

Chicago's losing streak is the longest since Baltimore dropped 19 in a row in August 2021.

Kepler, who entered in the fifth inning as a pinch hitter, hit his seventh home run of the season. The drive to right off Touki Toussaint (0-1) sent the Twins to their 11th win in 12 games against the White Sox this season.

Willi Castro hit a two-run single in a three-run eighth on the 13th pitch of his at-bat against John Brebbia and Brooks Lee added an RBI single.

AP

Minnesota Twins' Ryan Jeffers is congratulated for his solo home run against the Chicago White Sox during the second inning of a baseball game, Saturday, Aug. 3, 2024, in Minneapolis.

YANKEES 8, BLUE JAYS 3

NEW YORK (AP)—Aaron Judge launched his 41st home run, adding to his major league-leading total, and New York beat Toronto.

Anthony Volpe and No. 9 batter Trent Grisham also hit two-run shots off Jos√© Berr√≠os to help Carlos Rod√≥n (12-7) win his third consecutive start after going 0-5 in his previous six.

Volpe and Austin Wells each had an RBI single for the Yankees, who began the day tied with Baltimore atop the AL East after their five-game winning streak was snapped in the series opener Friday night. The Orioles were scheduled to play later in Cleveland.

CARDINALS 5, CUBS 4

CHICAGO (AP)—A Chicago fielding mix-up allowed Nolan Arenado's short fly to drop for a tying, two-run single in a three-run eighth inning, Tommy Pham tripled and scored in the ninth and St. Louis won.

St. Louis trailed 4-1 in the eighth before newly acquired third baseman Isaac Paredes threw wildly past first on Brendan Donovan's grounder off Porter Hodge, allowing Alec Burleson to score from second on the error.

Arenado hit a fly to short center that second baseman Nico Hoerner called for and was readying to catch when center fielder Pete Crow-Armstrong called him off. Crow-Armstrong couldn't get to the ball, which dropped 213 feet from the plate as two runs scored.

NATIONALS 6, BREWERS 4

WASHINGTON (AP)—Luis Garcia Jr. was a triple shy of the cycle in his second straight three-hit game, Kyle Finnegan got a four-out save in his first outing since blowing a four-run lead and Washington beat Milwaukee to stop a five-game losing streak.

Travis Blankenhorn hit a two-run double on a ball that left fielder Jackson Chourio allowed to drop behind him at the base of the wall during a two-out rally as Washington took a 4-0, first-inning lead.

Aaron Civale (2-8) allowed five runs and seven hits in four innings, dropping to 0-2 in five starts since Milwaukee acquired him from Tampa Bay on on June 3.

RAYS 6, ASTROS 1

HOUSTON (AP)—Josh Lowe homered twice to help Tampa Bay beat Houston.

Lowe hit his sixth and seventh homers of the season for his second career multi-homer game. His first came off Ronel Blanco, who was a pitch away from escaping the fifth inning with a shutout intact until Lowe turned a 91-mph fastball down the middle 373 feet to right.

TIGERS 6, ROYALS 5, 11 INNINGS

DETROIT (AP)—Wenceel Perez singled with two out in the 11th inning and Detroit rallied three times to beat Kansas City.

The Tigers trailed in the ninth, 10th and 11th innings, and ended a five-game losing streak. Kansas City had won five straight.

Parker Meadows led off the 11th with an RBI triple and the Royals intentionally walked Javier B√°ez. Jake Rogers hit into a double play, but Perez lined a ball off the wall in right center field off James McArthur (4-5).

The Royals led 3-1 going into the ninth, but Bligh Madris led off the ninth inning with a home run off Hunter Harvey. Zach McKinstry followed with a pinch-hit double.

REDS 6, GIANTS 4

CINCINNATI—Tyler Stephenson hit two of Cincinnati's four home runs to lead them to a win over San Francisco, one day after they were no-hit by Blake Snell.

Hunter Greene (8-4) stretched his scoreless innings streak to 21 with six shutout innings and has now gone six consecutive starts allowing one or zero runs, tying him for the team single-season record with Johnny Vander Meer, who did it in 1938. Vander Meer pitched back-to-back no-hit games that season.

Greene struck out a season-high 11 and lowered his ERA to 2.83. He allowed a single to Michael Conforto in the fourth, hit a batter and walked one.

ORIOLES 7, GUARDIANS 4

CLEVELAND (AP)—Zach Eflin won his second straight start since joining Baltimore's rotation and Gunnar Henderson had three hits and an RBI as they stopped Cleveland's five-game winning streak.

Eflin (7-7) cooled off the AL Central-leading Guardians, holding them to two runs and five hits in 6 1/3 innings. The right-hander was acquired from Tampa Bay on July 26 for three minor leaguers.

Baltimore's Adley Rutschman had a pinch-hit, two-run triple in the eighth inning when the Orioles scored four times to take a 7-2 lead.

Henderson snapped a 2-2 tie with an RBI single in the fifth as Baltimore stayed tied with the New York Yankees atop the AL East.

MARLINS 4, BRAVES 3

ATLANTA (AP)—Jesus Sanchez hit a tiebreaking double in the seventh inning and Miami beat red-hot Atlanta, halting their four-game winning streak.

The Braves had won four straight and six of seven entering the game and were 5-0 against the Marlins at Truist Park this season.

Jake Burger was 2 for 5 with a home run and two RBIs. It was the fourth home run in five games for Burger and his 17th of the season. Sanchez was 3 for 5 with two doubles and two RBIs and a steal while Nick Fortes was 2 for 4 with two runs scored. Xavier Edwards extended his on-base streak to 20 games by going 1 for 3 with two walks in the win.

Declan Cronin (3-3) picked up the win with two scoreless innings. Calvin Faucher earned his first save of the season and second of his career by striking out two in the ninth.

RANGERS 7, RED SOX 4

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Jonah Heim and Leody Taveras homered back-to-back from the bottom of the order to erase a three-run deficit in the fourth inning, and Texas beat Boston.

Rob Refsnyder, who tied a career with four hits and had three RBIs, hit solo home runs his first two times up—his sixth and seventh of the season—to help the Red Sox build a 3-0 lead before Heim's tying three-run shot.

Two pitches after Heim's 10th homer on a high drive down the line in right field, Taveras pulled a liner into the first row in right for his ninth in the second win over the past eight games for the defending World Series champions.

Texas reliever Jose Leclerc (5-4) struck out Ceddanne Rafaela on a checked swing on a full-count pitch in the dirt with the bases loaded when the Rangers trailed 3-0 in the top of the fourth.

PIRATES 4, DIAMONDBACKS 2

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Bryan Reynolds and Joey Bart homered and Pittsburgh beat Arizona.

Reynolds' two-run shot to center off Slade Cecconi in the sixth inning broke a 1-1. Bart opened the scoring with a solo shot in the second inning off starter Jordan Montgomery.

Bart also knocked in the Pirates' other run in the sixth, singling home Connor Joe, who had doubled. Second base umpire Adrian Johnson originally ruled Joe was out at second base on a throw by left fielder Lourdes Gurriel Jr. but the play was overturned on video review.

Kyle Nicolas (2-2), the fourth of six Pittsburgh pitchers, worked two scoreless innings for the win. Cecconi (2-7) allowed three runs in 2 1/3 innings.

PADRES 3, ROCKIES 2

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Xander Bogaerts hit a go-ahead RBI single in the seventh inning and Mart√≠n P√©rez pitched six strong innings in his debut for San Diego to snap a five-game losing streak to last-place Colorado.

The Padres have won 10 of 13 since the All-Star break. They followed up a two-game home sweep of the NL West-leading Los Angeles Dodgers by losing 5-2 to the Rockies on Friday night.

After being held to one run and one hit in six innings by rookie Tanner Gordon, the Padres broke through against reliever Peter Lambert (2-5) in the seventh.

Jake Cronenworth hit a leadoff single, Manny Machado doubled and Bogaerts singled to left to give the Padres a 2-1 lead. Rookie Jackson Merrill followed with a sacrifice fly.

DODGERS 10, ATHLETICS 0

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Jack Flaherty pitched six sharp innings in his Los Angeles debut as they snapped a three-game losing streak by beating Oakland.

Shohei Ohtani stole three bases for Los Angeles to give him 31 on the season to go with his 33 homers. This is just the fourth time a Dodgers player reached the 30-30 club in a season and only three players in the majors doing it faster than Ohtani, who accomplished it in the 111th game of the season. Eric Davis was the fastest to do it in 1987 when he reached it in Cincinnati's 105th game.

Flaherty (8-5) had the biggest night in his first game since being acquired on Tuesday in a deadline deal from Detroit. He paid immediate dividends for a struggling Dodgers team that had lost five of six games before he took the mound in Oakland.

He allowed five hits, one walk and struck out five in an impressive performance. He ended his night by escaping a bases-loaded, no-out jam in the sixth by inducing two groundouts and a strikeout.

ANGELS 5, METS 4

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Zach Neto drove in a career-high four runs, including three with a go-ahead home run in the seventh inning, and Los Angeles rallied for a victory over New York despite J.D. Martinez's second grand slam in eight games.

Neto connected on a cutter from Huascar Brazoban (1-3) and put it in the Mets' bullpen in left field to put the Halos back on top.

Michael Stefanic started the rally with a two-out base hit and Nolan Schanuel drew a walk to set the table for Neto's team-leading 17th homer of the season. Neto also had an RBI single in the fifth inning as the Angels snapped a three-game losing streak.

MARINERS 6, PHILLIES 5, 10 INNINGS

SEATTLE (AP)—Mitch Haniger walked with the bases loaded in the bottom of the 10th inning to score Randy Arozarena with the winning run, and Seattle rallied from a 5-0 deficit for a win over Philadelphia.

Seattle handed Philadelphia its sixth straight loss, the longest losing streak for the Phillies since early in the 2023 season when they also dropped six consecutive games.

After Cal Raleigh was intentionally walked to start the inning, Carlos Estevez got Justin Turner and Jason Vosler for the first two outs, before hitting Dylan Moore to load the bases. After falling behind in the count 0-2, Haniger laid off a couple of close pitches and got the benefit of a check-swing that was called a ball. But Estevez (1-4) wasn't close as the 3-2 pitch missed high and Seattle celebrated its sixth win in the past eight games.

Silver says NBA, FIBA having 'much more serious' talks about growth in Europe

VILLENEUVE-D'ASCQ, France (AP)—NBA Commissioner Adam Silver was walking around a French neighborhood with his family earlier this week while visiting for the Paris Olympics and NBA jerseys were being worn by people everywhere he looked. Current ones, classic ones, he saw all kinds.

It was yet another sign of the NBA's global reach.

"Again, it reminds me just what the opportunity really is here," Silver said.

The question now is how to best utilize that opportunity. The NBA is ramping up talks with FIBA, the sport's global governing body, on how to best increase its competitive footprint in Europe either through an annual tournament or an NBA-operated league, Silver said Friday in an interview with The Associated Press.

AP

France's Victor Wembanyama claps as he leaves the court after France defeated Japan in a men's basketball game at the 2024 Summer Olympics, Tuesday, July 30, 2024, in Villeneuve-d'Ascq, France.

The talks are not new: Silver said the NBA has been holding discussions about the future of basketball in Europe for decades. But the current conversations are pointed directly toward fulfilling what the league thinks is the commercial and competitive potential of basketball in Europe, and now that the league's new media rights deals that begin with the 2025-26 season are complete the conversations with FIBA are "much more serious," Silver said.

"We certainly haven't made any definitive decisions," Silver said. "I continue to believe there's enormous opportunity here. It's not something where we'll transform a league structure in the short term. But I think that there's an appetite among our team owners for additional investment in global basketball. We have a huge initiative in China. We have a huge initiative in Africa. Given the quality of the basketball here in Europe, it would seem to make sense that we should be doing something here as well."

Silver said he has no preference on whether the answer is a new league or a new competition. He said his trip to the Olympics provides him and deputy commissioner Mark Tatum a chance to talk with FIBA executives, league executives and other stakeholders about the future, and Silver likened it to a listening tour.

There's no time frame, either. But the timing to do something never has made more sense, especially given that many NBA stars—including MVPs and NBA champions like Giannis Antetokounmpo and Nikola Jokic, the reigning scoring champion in Luka Doncic and the reigning rookie of the year in Victor Wembanyama—are from Europe. About 60 current NBA players are European, and that figure represents roughly half of the league's international lineup. And the last two No. 1 picks, Wembanyama and Atlanta's Zaccharie Risacher, hail from France.

NMI

From page 16

in Game 2 for its first Marianas Cup men's title since its debut in 2007.

At press time, the NMI team is taking on Guam for the last game of the Marianas Cup. Results of that game will be posted in the next issue of *Saipan Tribune*.

Last Saturday, team captain Daniell Pablo set the tone for the home squad as he led the way and found an opening through multiple Guam defenders after a corner kick by Paul Lizama in the 45th +1 minute.

After the ball bounced off the leaping tries of a Guam and NMI player, Pablo readied and set himself for a kick that ricocheted off a Guam player and into the net for a 1-0 lead that was met by celebratory hugs and cheers by his teammates and the crowd.

Throughout the second half, late summer showers did not douse the NMI's fire as they went on to play with growing intensity as each minute passed. Both teams' heart and long-standing rivalry was displayed on the pitch and conjured up multiple yellow cards after hard contacts on the pitch.

But despite chances by Guam to tie the game up, they could not convert any into goals as the NMI's defenses held up and keeper Mark Chavez held down the fort.

Then in the 82st minute, Pablo found himself in another scoring opportunity at the penalty box. He let one fly but was deflected by Guam's keeper, then was immediately shot back in by Paul Lizama to secure the second goal for the home team. Eventually, Guam could not find the back of the net and fell, 0-2.

With Pablo and Lizama are Mark Chavez, Akoni Matsumoto, Leo Takahashi, Casey Chambers, Cody Shimizu, Andrew Sablan, Dev Bachani, Leland Deleon Guerrero, Nolan Ngewakl, Markus Toves, Ariel Narvaez, Edward Arriola III, Ruben Guerrero, Anthony Bergancia, Wataru Kadokura, Anthony Austria, Tyler Omelau, and Monico Claridades. Konomi Suzuki is the head coach, while Jershwin Angeles is the assistant coach, Jireh Yobech is the assistant coach/team manager, Merrick Toves is the goalkeeper coach, and Hazel Mabasa is the physiotherapist.

The Guam team is made up of Shuntaro Suzuki, Josiah Jones, Renzel Reburiano, Gavin Baker, Giacomo Bustamante, Nicolas Chargualaf, Landen Diaz, Aldryn Ednaco, Micah Elwell, Sean Halehale, Curtis Harmon, Matthew Hodgins, Luciano Jameson, Takayuki Kobayashi, Mason Manibusan, Nicholas Moore, Donovan Moss, Beau Perez, CJ Sablan, and Samuel Stenson. Dominic Gadia is the head coach, Michael Milner is the assistant coach, Jeroen Bos is the goalkeeper coach, Vance Manibusan is the team manager, and Ryan Claros is the team physiotherapist.

Pablo said of his first goal, "Honestly scoring the first goal of the game feels good. Knowing that we were a step closer to winning by that goal is a big advantage in the game."

The match overall, he said, "was intense from the beginning, with the constant body contact from everyone. Knowing that, we all adapted well. Team NMI fought hard and played our style of football. We played with how we played and we did well."

When asked how their performance this time around compares to last year's cup and last April's friendly matches, he said, "I can say compared to the Guam friendlies, we played really good." But, he said, "Yesterday's (last Saturday's) win is not enough to celebrate. We have no trophy yet so we have no reason to celebrate. Onto today's (yesterday's) game, we have to play harder and keep the focus. We talked about representing our island and we'll wear the flag uniform, so we have to play our hardest."

BEER

From page 16

crowned the drunken master once again with his time of 7:32.

Second place was Greg Trusso at 8:17 and third place went to Aaron Pamintuan 8:29.

Poole, a physical education teacher at Marianas High School, said his plan of attack this year was to try to relax, he didn't drink water three hours before the race, and had just one meal. "I tried to relax and tried not to get the nerves to get a hold of me because when you're competing in the beer mile, it's not the same as doing it and jogging—it's trying to win—so just relax a little bit," he said.

As to why he's joined every Beer Run event, he said, "I'm winning. A lot of the guys are better runners than me, but when they've had beer, they cannot run—while I can run and drink pretty well. I just combined the two and I realized when I first did it that it was a unique experience. I was intimidated by the runners when I first came and I wasn't planning on being in the Top 10, but I won, so I was like 'hey, let's have some fun.'"

In the women's division, donned in a costume specifically made for the event—a black/golden bikini top and golden skirt—Gai ran into first place with a time of 9:53 to push out defending champion Rosemarie Chisato who settled for second place at 10:26. Third place was Soledad Tenorio 10 seconds later at 10:36.

Gai, a 33-year-old Chinese-English court interpreter said this was her first time to join the event because of conflicts of schedule in the past races, and she's glad to have joined this year's race because it was "a lot of fun."

Through the race, she said that the third drink and lap was rough as she and Chisato were neck-and-neck, so in the last lap, Gai turned on the afterburners after a spurt of motivation to clinch the title in style.

She said that she's part of the Saipan Hash group, wherein they regularly hike and drink around Saipan's jungles—so for her, it's a regular thing. "I have been trained for years for this race," she said.

Not only does she drink, she also runs regularly and completed the full marathon in the Saipan Marathon last March. She said she also signed up for the Run Saipan half marathon later this month.

Results of the event's first ever Corporate Relay Division will be posted in the next issue of *Saipan Tribune*.

MAYOR

From page 16

the community," Camacho said on when the karate program will be up and running.

More on the programs Camacho wants to set up, he said, "What can we do to serve this community out here in a better way so we can reduce these unacceptable activities within our community? Drugs are addictive, but so is technology. We have to break the kids away from it. There are opportunities such as this martial arts that's around the corner—let's bring these kids in. These are the programs I'm trying to come up with for our community because I see this is lacking in our island."

Banez, for his part, then said they would need funding for more equipment, gear, and gi (traditional uniform). For his dojo, their one-month fee of three times a week sessions is $75.

As for karate tournaments in the CNMI and not just in Guam, they said there's a possibility. However, Diaz, a Special Education State Personnel Development Grant Project coordinator, said that they could also piggyback off Guam's yearly tournaments.

"We can cost-share and open the seminar here to all the kids—you don't have to be a member of the dojo. We can just find a location and open it to everyone… this is really for everyone and our community," he said.

Atalig, for his part, said, "I've been with sensei Danny since the '90s. I stopped and came back mostly for physical and mental health. What I learned from taking self-defense is: I learned to fight so I don't have to fight. That's what it's all about. It's about strengthening the mind and the body—it's not to abuse it or show it off—it's for yourself."

Floyd, who's been in the sport for about a year, said, "it's difficult—I'm 47—so you really have to dedicate yourself and learn. This is something I knew that I could do to stay active, be disciplined, and stay motivated."

Banez then thanked sponsors of their team—BFSM Bank, Joeten Superstore, MMC and Marianas Security, Mobil Tanapag Station, Soudelor Construction, and Kautz Glass, The Water Company, and Saipan Mayor Ramon B. "RB" Camacho.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	66	46	.589	–
New York	66	46	.589	–
Boston	58	51	.532	6½
Tampa Bay	56	54	.509	9
Toronto	51	60	.459	14½
Central Division				
Cleveland	67	43	.609	–
Minnesota	61	48	.560	5½
Kansas City	62	50	.554	6
Detroit	53	59	.473	15
Chicago	27	86	.239	41½
West Division				
Seattle	59	53	.527	–
Houston	57	53	.518	1
Texas	53	58	.477	5½
Los Angeles	48	63	.432	10½
Oakland	46	66	.411	13

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	65	45	.591	–
Atlanta	60	50	.545	5
New York	58	52	.527	7
Washington	50	61	.450	15½
Miami	41	70	.369	24½
Central Division				
Milwaukee	62	48	.564	–
St. Louis	57	54	.514	5½
Pittsburgh	56	54	.509	6
Cincinnati	53	57	.482	9
Chicago	54	59	.478	9½
West Division				
Los Angeles	64	47	.577	–
San Diego	60	52	.536	4½
Arizona	59	52	.532	5
San Francisco	55	57	.491	9½
Colorado	41	71	.366	23½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Biles, Ledecky win more gold; Richardson settles for silver

PAGE 13

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Silver says NBA, FIBA having 'much more serious' talks about growth in Europe

PAGE 15

NMI men blank Guam, 2-0

LEIGH GASES
The NMI's Paul Lizama outpaces a Guam defender during the first half of their first match in the Marianas Football Cup 2024 last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The skill level of football in the NMI is clearly on the up and up and is attested by stellar performances of both the women's and men's teams at home over the past couple of weeks.

LEIGH GASES
The NMI Men's U20 National Team captain Daniell Pablo, center, looks back at his teammates after their celebration of his goal in the one minute extra time of the first half during their first game in the Marianas Football Cup 2024 last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

The NMI Men's U20 National Team grabbed their chance at the spotlight in a big way during the first match of two in the Marianas Football Cup 2024 as they blanked the Guam Men's U20 National Team last Saturday, 2-0, at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

This, after the NMI Women's U21 National Team swept the competition over Guam and Mongolia in the NMIFA Women's U21 Three Nations Cup just a week ago.

In last year's Marianas Cup, the NMI men's U23 team clinched the title over Guam after they won with an aggregate score of 3-1 over two games. Guam took Game 1, 1-0, but NMI won big, 3-0,

See NMI on Page 15

Mayor calls for sports programs, praises karate team

LEIGH GASES
Saipan Mayor Ramon B. "RB" Camacho, center in blue, poses with CNMI Martial Arts Academy of Self-Defense-Kyokushinkai Karate Watanabe Dojo sensei Danny Banez, fifth from right, and his students and their parents during a press conference at the Saipan Mayor's Office conference last Friday.

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Mayor Ramon B. "RB" Camacho calls for programs and partnerships with sports organizations for a healthier community, and also praised the karate team that competed and won in the Karate Dream Festival 2024 International Championship in Japan during a press conference last Friday at the Saipan Mayor's Office conference room.

The press conference was attended by Camacho, CNMI Martial Arts Academy of Self-Defense-Kyokushinkai Karate Watanabe Dojo sensei Danny Banez, silver medalist Jerry Diaz, coach Eric Atalig, martial artist Spencer Floyd, and young martial artists and their parents.

They talked about the benefits and the positive impact of martial arts for the youth and the community. Camacho and Banez said that the partnership/program with the SMO and the CNMI Martial Arts Academy of Self-Defense-Kyokushinkai Karate Watanabe Dojo is in the works.

Camacho then congratulated the team on officially being recognized as the 106th country of the World Karate Organization and are now able to compete anywhere around the world.

As for the sports programs, Camacho said they should work on making a non-profit organization in order to tap into grants for funds that will be used to benefit the youth and their sports programs.

"This is just the beginning. I've seen Jerry and Eric practicing, so I talked to [Banez] and said I need this kind of program to expose it to

See MAYOR on Page 15

LEIGH GASES
Men's/overall winner Leith Poole chugs down a beer during the men's division race of the 3rd Annual Michelob Ultra Beer Mile 2024 challenge at the Saipan Vegas Country Club last Friday.

LEIGH GASES
Women's division first place Madge Gai drinks up in style during the women's division race of the 3rd Annual Michelob Ultra Beer Mile 2024 challenge at the Saipan Vegas Country Club last Friday.

Poole, Gai chug way to Beer Mile 1st place

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In celebration of International Beer Day last Aug. 2, beer and running enthusiasts found themselves in the 3rd Annual Michelob Ultra Beer Mile 2024 challenge that combined both booze and exercise—all while trying not to drench up the already raincoated course at the Saipan Vegas Country Club with the contents of their stomach.

Each runner had to drink one beer, run 400m, drink another beer, run 400m, drink a third beer, run 400m, drink a fourth beer and then take another 400m loop to finish the course.

Last Friday, they took to the slippery grass loop, with Leith Poole finding his way back on top of the men's division, while Madge Gai drank and ran her way to first place in the women's division.

Poole, who's participated in every single Beer Run—topped the inaugural race in 2022, then fell behind to second place last year. This time around, he tapped equally into both his drinking and running prowess to redeem himself and be

See BEER on Page 15